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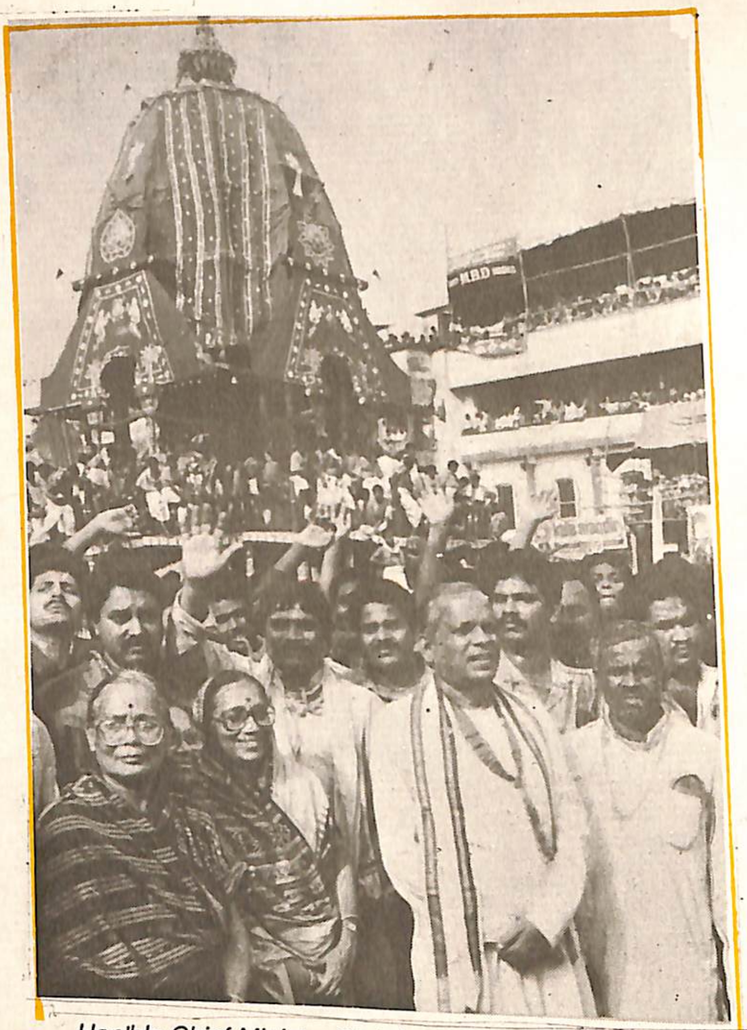

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik and his wife Smt. Jayanti Patnaik, Shri Netrananda Mallick, Minister, I.&P.R.; Shri Suresh Kumar Routray, Minister of State, Sports are witnessing the Car Festival, 1995 at Puri

Minister, Information and Public Relations is visiting the Exhibition Stall of Information and P. R. Department at Saradhabali, Puri on 30-6-1995

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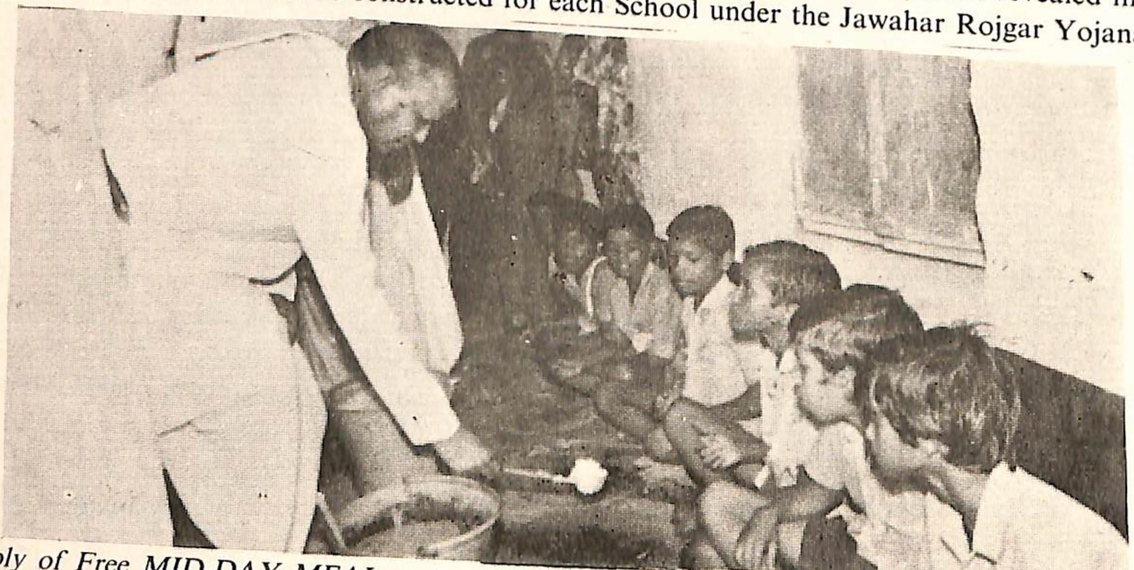
FREE MID-DAY MEAL FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS

Free feeding programme for primary school children was formally inaugurated by Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik at Begunia in Khurda district on July,1 last. This marked the beginning of State's ambitious plan to feed 44,000 Primary School children. Shri and Smt. Patnaik served cooked food at Begunia U.P. School to highlight the inaugural function.

Addressing a largely attended public meeting held on the occasion at Begunia, Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik said the Government embarked upon this plan to save primary children from hunger and malnutrition. 'It would improve students' attendance and remove illiteracy', he said and added that two women from among the helpless, would be appointed as cook and assistant for 200 students in every school.

Shri Patnaik called for active participation of the villagers and the school managing body for successful implementation of this programme. He too insisted that villagers should lend their helping hand to prepare special dishes for the school children on different festive days. He revealed in the meeting that a kitchen would be constructed for each School under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana.



Supply of Free MID-DAY MEAL to Primary School Children of the State, Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik, Chief Minister is found serving freshly cooked food to Primary School Children at Begunia during inauguration of the Scheme.

Shri Patnaik said, the Government were taking up many schemes within 100 days of assuming office to fulfil the hopes of masses. The State was assured of Rs.40,000 crore funds to achieve a breakthrough in industrialisation within the stipulated period and the measure for implementation was on the anvil. He said the programme for providing *pucca* buildings free of cost to Adivasis and Harijans under Indira Awas Yojana was given a five-fold booster and power supply to more and more villages was underway. 'New dugwells would replace the old', he said and added the scope for self-employment of the local youths would be widened after imparting them free training to repair the damaged wells.

Spelling out the strategy for setting up more agriculture-based industries for ameliorating the lot of farmers, he hinted at installation of a sugar industry in the district as scheduled. He said each farmer could earn Rs. 20,000 per acre from sugar cane cultivation besides the benefit of direct or indirect employment facilities.

CONSUMPTION OF CHEMICAL FERTILISERS IN ORISSA

Dr. D. Panda

Despite persistent attempt for industrialisation, the economy of the state of Orissa continues to be agrarian. The agriculture sector dominates the state's economy to its overwhelming contribution to state domestic product and employment. In numerical terms, the contribution of primary sector (Agriculture, Animal husbandry, Forestry, Fishery, Mining etc) to state's income was 57 per cent in 1980–81 which marginally decreased to 52.9 per cent in 1991-92 while the all–India contribution is less then 30 per cent at present. Further, this sector provides employment to about 80 per cent of the total workforce of the state. This speaks of the fact that agriculture is not only the main occupation of the people of Orissa but also a way of life of the people.

Prospects of agriculture in the state depends on good and timely monsoon and as such the quantity of agricultural production went through violent fluctuation during the 7th plan period. However, the adoption of modern technology has led to substantial increase in food grain production in the state. The total food grain production which was 5.61 million Metric Tonnes (MT) in 84–85 has increased to 7.38 million MT in 91–92 registering an overall increase of 31.55 per cent over 84–85. But it decreased to 6.10 million MT in 92–93 owing to unfavourable weather conditions. The oil seeds production increased from 0.68 million MT to 0.98 million MT during the period under reference recording an overall increase of 30.61 per cent. On the other hand, the achievement in per hectare production is highly discouraging. The production of rice per hectare in the state has been recorded at 14.3 quintals compared to 31.1, 30.9, 23.3, 24.2, and 17.6 quintals for Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and all–India average respectively. Thus it is observed that per hectare rice production in the state is not upto satisfaction and as such there is urgent need to accelerate the agricultural production so as to justify the agrarian nature of the economy.

The Green Revolution :

Since the mid–sixties, the traditional agricultural practices are gradually being replaced by modern technology consisting of proper application of chemical fertilisers, insecticides and pesticides, use of high yielding varieties of seeds (HYV), etc. The successful adoption of the new technology popularly called the 'Green Revolution' has produced impressive results for states like Punjab, Haryana, U. P., Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala whereas for Orissa the result is dismal. The 'Sen committee' constituted in the year 1984 by the Planning Commission rightly remarked that the green revolution has not been properly effected in the Eastern states of the country. But meanwhile West Bengal and Bihar have substantially developed their agriculture industry whereas Orissa is lagging for behind in this respect.

The foundation of agricultural growth lies ultimately in the advanced technology used at the farm level. The basis for these technological advances rests in the system of agricultural research and institutional arrangement which alone can contribute to agrarian development in the state. However, the principal ingredients of the new technology are listed as under :

1. Use of new HYV seeds;
2. Development of multiple cropping;
3. Net work of irrigation for intensive cultivation;
4. Soil and water management measure;

5. Balanced use of Chemical fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides and insecticides;
6. Emphasis on research and its application;
7. Farmers' training and education; and
8. Development of infrastructure of credit, marketing, distribution system and supply of inputs.

These measures, when applied in the proper coordinated form are bound to bring about far-reaching changes in agricultural output in the state. It is not possible to cover analyses relating to all the above ingredients of the technology within the magnitude of this paper. Hence, it is proposed to evaluate the state of affairs relating to consumption of fertilisers in the state as an input for boosting agricultural production in the state.

Fertiliser Consumption :

In order to increase the yield rate of farm output of a desired level, it is essential to make optimum and balanced use of chemical fertilisers. The consumption of fertilisers is significantly low in the state as reflected in the Table below :

TABLE—1

Consumption of fertilisers in Selected States of India (Kg./Ha.)

Sl. No.	State	1980-81	1985-86	1993-94	Average Annual growth rate(%)
01.	A.P.	45.9	66.3	117.1	5.47
02.	Bihar	17.8	48.8	58.8	2.92
03.	Gujrat	34.4	40.5	64.6	2.32
04.	Haryana	42.5	65.5	113.5	5.56
05.	Karnatak	31.3	48.4	68.5	2.87
06.	Kerala	33.4	49.8	58.6	1.93
07.	M.P.	9.2	19.1	33.1	1.83
08.	Maharastra	21.2	31.7	54.6	2.56
09.	Orissa	9.6	14.7	21.6	0.92
10.	Punjab	117.9	157.4	159.9	3.23
11.	T. N.	63.2	96.2	114.5	3.94
12.	U. P.	49.4	78.7	90.0	3.12
13.	W.B.	35.9	52.2	86.1	3.86
14.	Rajasthan	8.0	11.6	25.9	1.37
15.	Assam	2.8	4.6	8.8	0.46
	ALL INDIA	31.9	48.4	66.4	2.65

Source : 1. Economic Survey, 1993-94, Government of Orissa.
2. Fertilizer Marketing News, Sept. 1994, Vol. 9, P. 22.

It may be observed from the Table above that per hectare consumption of fertilisers has been highest in the state of Punjab followed by Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Haryana where the consumption has been recorded over 100 Kg/Ha. For the state of Orissa the figure has been recorded at 21.6 Kg./Ha. which is second lowest in the country. The all–India consumption stands at 66.4 Kg/Ha in 1993–94 which is 44.8 Kg. higher than the state level consumption.

The highest average annual rate of growth has been recorded at 5.56 per cent for Haryana followed by 5.47 per cent for Andhra Pradesh. But Orissa has recorded the second lowest average annual growth rate at 0.92 per cent as against all–India everage of 2.65 per cent. It may be seen from the Table above that all the neighbouring states, viz,AP, MP, Bihar and W. B. have sizable application of fertilisers compared to Orissa. Hence, it may be stated that consumption of fertilisers as a powerful productivity boosting agricultural input is not only very low in the state but also the average annual growth rate is negligible. Therfore, the concerned authorities at various levels of Government may take serious note of the facts indicated above so as to gear up machineries at their disposal to improve fertiliser consumption in this agriculture dominated state.

District–wise Consumption :

From the state level consumption, we now turn to district-wise consumption of fertilisers which are depicted in the following Table.

TABLE—II

District–wise (Undivided) Consumption of Fertilisers in Orissa (1990–91) Kg./Ha

Sl. No.	District	Consumption of Fertiliser
01.	Balasore	36.2
02.	Balangir	13.6
03.	Cuttack	20.5
04	Dhenkanal	12.4
05.	Ganjam	33.8
06	Kalahandi	7.2
07.	Keonjhar	9.1
08.	Koraput	10.5
09.	Mayurbhanj	13.0
10.	Phulbani	7.2
11.	Puri	23.5
12.	Sambalpur	48.9
13.	Sundargarh	10.2
	Orissa	20.7

Source : Economic Survey 1993–94, Government of Orissa.

The district-wise consumption, as shown above is characterised by high disparity. Sambalpur district has the highest level of consumption of fertiliser at 48·9 Kg/Ha and lowest consumption has been recorded at 7·2 Kg/Ha for both Phulbani and Kalahandi districts. Districts of Sambalpur, Puri, Ganjam and Balasore have recorded above the state average and the rest nine districts are positioned below it.

Jobs Ahead

It is established fact that the farm production is determined,to a great extent, by the use of modern technology including balanced use of fertiliser. The state economy being agrarian, there is greater necessity to accelerate the use of fertiliser in order to increase agricultural production so also economic status of down-trodden farmers. But in reality the state occupies second lowest position in the country. Excepting four districts, the rest nine districts are placed below the state average.

The Agriculture Department of the state is very well organised and is capable of reaching grass root level. The state has been divided, into 52 agricultural districts headed by District Agriculture Officers who report to the Director of Agriculture, the state level administrator. At the Block level there are Junior Agriculture Officers attached to each of 314 Blocks who are assisted by Village Agriculture Workers. But such an excellent organisational network has not created meaningful results as evidenced by the foregoing discussions. But is observed that mass illiteracy of farmers, low per capita income and majority of the state population living under poverty line, lack of sense of involvement of the part of officials, limited use of HYV seeds, lack of extensive irrigational facilities, acute shortage of fertilisers at peak season and black marketing by the distribution intermediaries are some of the noted reasons responsible for low consumption of fertilisers in the state. Hence, it is felt that there is urgent need to increase fertiliser consumption to improve agricultural productivity in the greater interest of the state.

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ROLE OF MANGROVES ON ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIO–ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE STATE OF ORISSA

Dr. B. P. Choudhury

Orissa due to its peculiar geographical location, varied climatic factors and a broad spectrum of edaphic factors is endowed with many natural resources of which, vegetable wealth deserves special mention. Despite its progressive depletion due to operation of biotic factors such as spread of urbanization, over exploitation of economically important plants, illegal felling of woody elements for timber and fuel, construction of water reservoirs and transport system etc., the forest cover was 43.73 per cent of the total land mass of this State (Panigrahi, 1983). Contrary to this estimate, as per a remote sensing report conducted by Forest Survey of India, Dehra Dun in 1991, Orissa possesses 47,205 sq. kms. of forests including 27,349 sq.kms. dense forest, 19,661 sq.kms. open forest and 195 sq. kms. mangrove forest (Mohanty, 1992). From these estimates it is evident that there is devastation of forest at an alarming rate.

Inspite of loss of forest cover there exists a great degree of variability as such Champion and Seth (1968) have identified 32 types of forests within the geographical boundary of Orissa. Of these, Littoral and Tidal swamp forest deserve special mention due to manifestation of their peculiar adaptability, harmonious existence of different types of plants, a broad spectrum of socio–economic importance, crucial role in the coastal environment and celestial beauty.

Unfortunately, this plant community drew little attention of the common people in general and scientific populace in particualr because of inadvertence and ignorance about their multi–facet benevolent attributes, pivotal role on the coastal environment. Consequently, the mangroves have partially/totally disappeared from the coastal region of India, largely due to operation of pestilent biotic factors, specially reclamation of forest land for prawn culture, paddy cultivation, human settlement, establishment of ports and factories etc.

At present, India harbors only 7 per cent of the World's mangroves (Anonymous, 1987). Estimates pertinent to mangrove distribution in the estuaries/lagoons of India are rather debatable. This is mainly due to variable concepts regarding mangrove ecosystem, interpretations of their categories such as true mangrove, transitional mangrove and their associates etc.

In context of the mangrove forest of Orissa, Haines (1921—1925) the-then forest conservator of Bihar and Orissa, for the first time provided scientific information, which was supplemented later on by Mooney (1950). Of course, Mooney's survey of this plant community was of short duration and was confined to Mahanadi delta in the region of false point only. He has flashed the information pertinent to mangroves of Orissa in the appendix III of his 'Supplement' since it was then under publication at Catholic Press, Ranchi.

In remote past, Mangroves of Orissa were extant at the estuaries of the rivers and fringes of Chilka lake along 480/500 Kms. in discontinuous patches (Fig. No. 1). But these have partially/totally disappeared from the estuary of Budhabalang, Subarnarekha and places like Ersama, Kujang, Ramanagar, Paradeep, Hetamundia etc. Causes of their disappearance as in other States of India, is largely due to reclamation of forest lands for prawn culture, paddy cultivation, settlement of the migratory populace from Bangladesh, establishment of Paradeep port (1962) and Paradeep Phosphates Factory (1982).

Mangroves, as per the present floristic survey for about ten years by the author are found mainly in the estuaries of the rivers like Brahmani, Baitarani, Mahanadi while remnants of this plant community are met with in the mouths of the rivers Budhabalang, Devi etc. as well as in the fringes of Chilka lake (Fig. No. 2).

Survey report conducted by Sidhu (1963a) indicates occurrence of 12000 hectares of mangroves in the mouth of the Mahanadi. According to Blasco (1975) only 50 sq.kms. of mangroves are extant in the estuaries of the rivers Dhamra and Mahanadi. According to the Status report : "Mangroves in India" published by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India (1987) Orissa harbours only 150 sq.kms. of mangroves of which 120 sq.kms. is present in the Mahanadi delta. Later on, Naskar and Guha Bakshi (1987) have given an estimate of 5000 hectares of mangroves in the Dhamra and Mahanadi estuaries. And finally, Banerjee *et al* (1989) have given an estimate of 200 sq. kms. of mangroves occurring in Bhitarkanika estuaries and mudflats of river Devi and Dhamra. Paradoxically, according to Remote Sensing report conducted by Orissa Remote Sensing Application Center (hereafter abbreviated as ORSAC), Bhubaneswar in 1984 Orissa mangroves spread over an area of 214.84 sq.kms. (Samal and Patnaik, 1989). There is a depletion of this figure as such it has been recorded that 216.056 sq.kms. of mangroves are existing as per the report given by ORSAC (1989). Further, Remote Sensing Agency, DehraDun conducted a survey programme in 1991 wherein existence of mangals covering an area of 195 sq.kms. has been observed (Mohanty, 1992). The figures pertinent to the mangrove coverage provided by different departments as well as scientific populace are contradictory. There are many reasons for such anomaly. Whatever may be the reasons, one can conclude that there is progressive depletion of Orissa mangrove.

Some basic knowledge regarding mangrove ecosystem is necessary for the non–scientific populace.

Mangrove plants usually gorw in the intertidal zones where there is confluence of fresh water from rivers and salt water of the sea or lagoon. The soil is clayey loam and highly slushy in nature. The salinity of the soil as well as water is variable. The habitat experiences regualr/occasional tide and wed effects. Some other plants also grow and exist harmoniously with the typical mangrove species in such habitat. These are known as mangrove associates. This plant community is prone to oceanic cyclones. In addition to various types of plants, quite a good number of aquatic, terrestrial animals as well as micro–organisms also exist in such pecualiar habitat. The peaceful co–existence of all life forms is unique which reveals the intricate cosmology of the Great Creator.

In general, this ecosystem is met with in the tropical and subtropical sheltered coastal belts of the world as such, the Indo–Pacific regions are abodes of luxuriant as well as diverse type of mangrove. Hence, Indian mangroves were plentiful as well as luxuriant in past. But these are now in denuded forms where they exist except those of Sundarbans, Andaman–Nicobar Islands and Bhitarkanika.

The mangroves possess pneumatophores (breathing roots) as the soil contains less amount of oxygen which is essential for respiration. Still roots/knee roots provide adequate strength to the stem to remain in upright condition since these plants have to face the influence of tide and ebb. Additional strength is also provided by widening of the basal parts of the stem. For germination of the seeds the habitat is not suitable because of salinity in soil coupled with the washing of the mudflats by saline water. Therefore, seeds germinate while these are inside the fruits and after development of roots the fruits fall and penetrate the soil. These are well established and further development takes place. The phenomenon of such germination is known as vivipary. The leaves are thick and shinning, studded with salt excretory of glands to get rid of excess amount of salts, through the process of absorption. Over and above, for propagation, the fruits are light and are usually covered with fibre so that these can float for a long time and are drifted to other places by oceanic current where they germinate and colonize in the suitable habitats.

In Orissa the notable mangrove trees which are at present found are : *Sonneratia apetala* (Kerua)* *Sonneratia acida* (Oran), *Heritiercs minor* (Suandari), *Carapa obovata*(Sisumar), *Hibiscus tiliaceous* (Bania), *Avicennia officinalis* (Kala bani), *Avicennia alba* (Dhala bani), *Rhizophora apiculata* (Rai), *Rhizophora mucronata* (Rai), *Phoenix paludosa* (Hental) etc. while

CHILIKA : VEGETATION

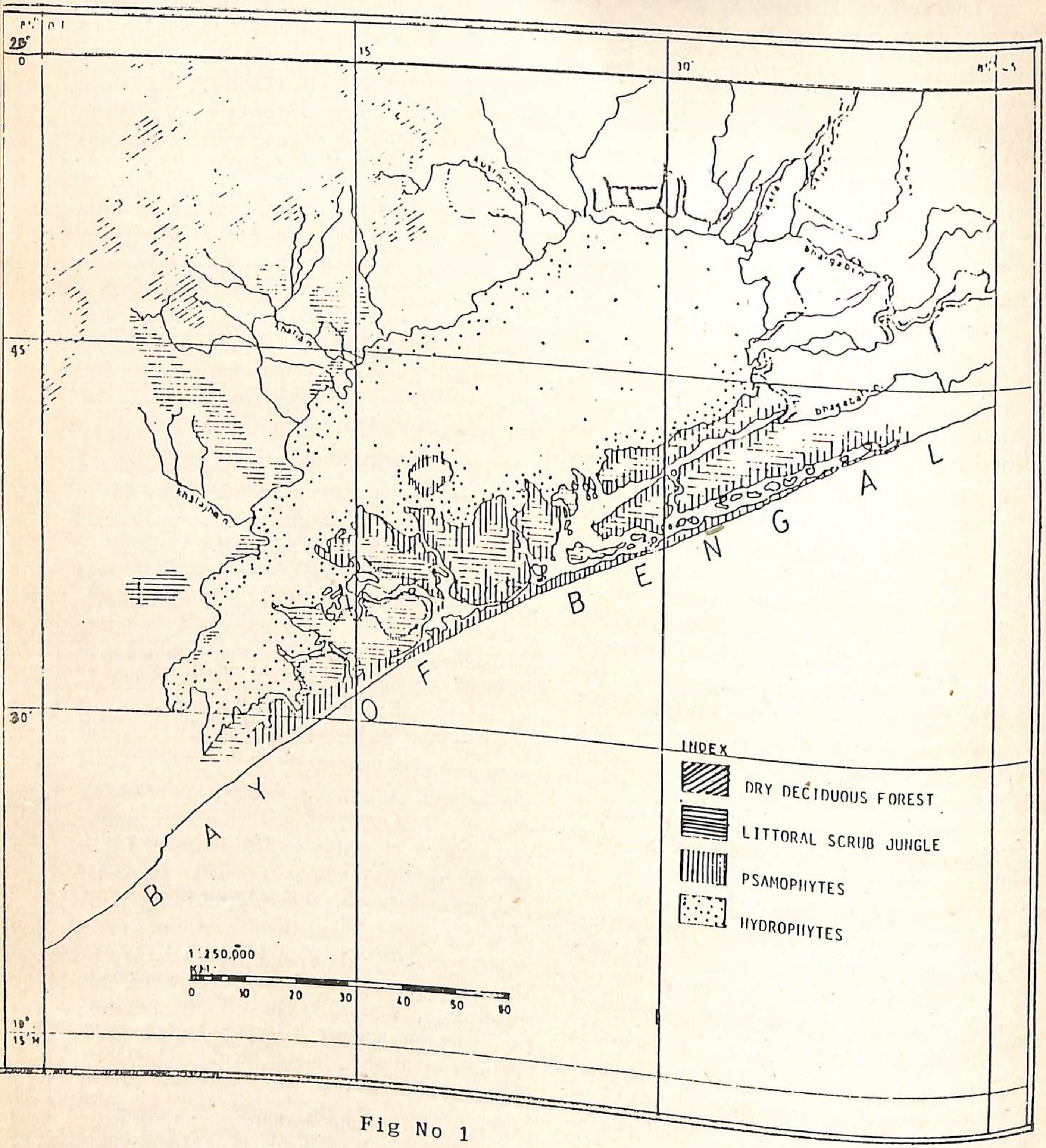

Fig No 1

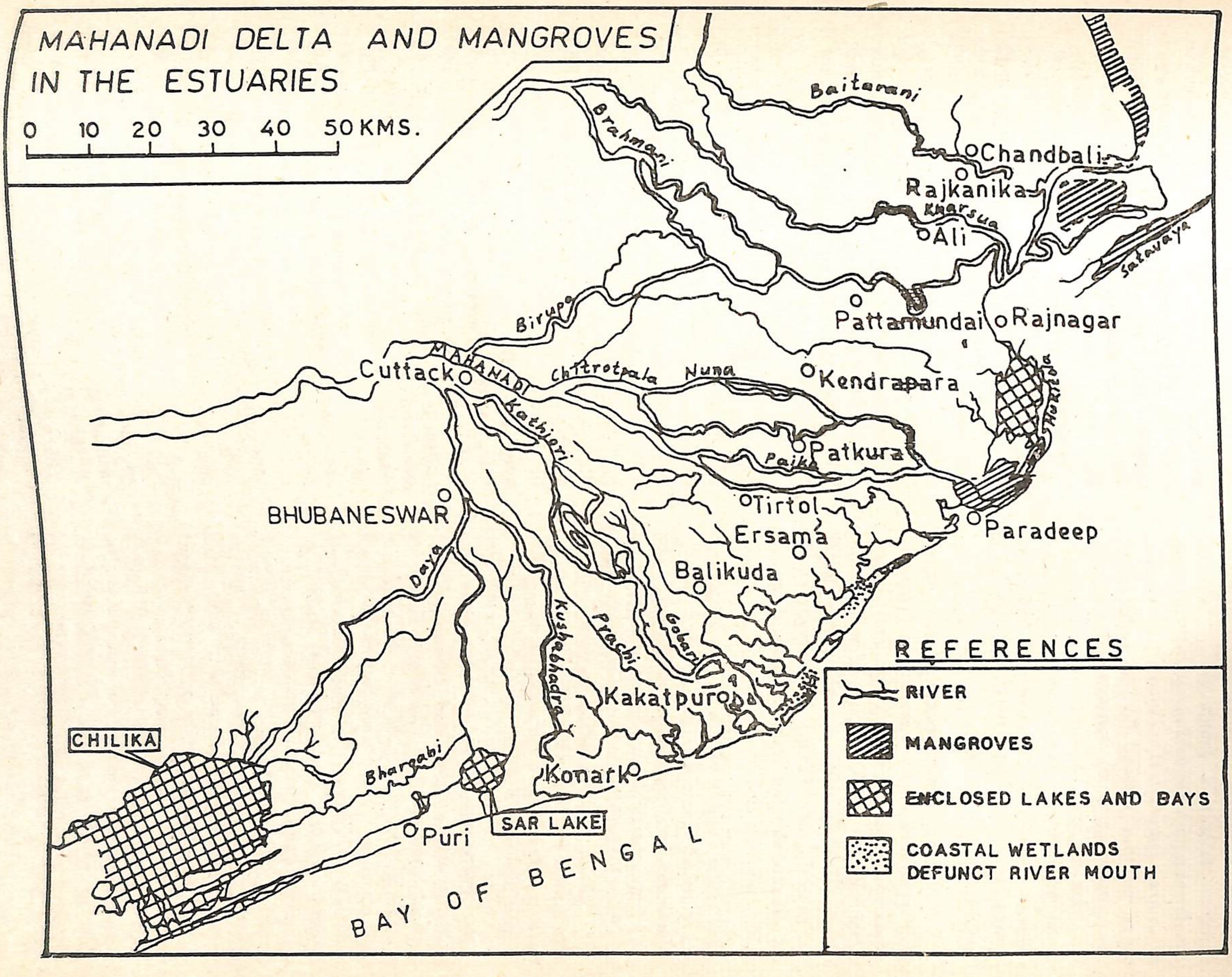
MAHANADI DELTA AND MANGROVES IN THE ESTUARIES
0 10 20 30 40 50 KMS.
Baitarani
Brahmani
Chandbali
Rajkanika
Kharsua
Ali
Satavaya
Birupa
Pattamundai
Rajnagar
MAHANADI
Cuttack
Chitrotpala
Nuna
Kendrapara
Hansua
Kathjori
Patkura
Paika
Tirtol
Paradeep
BHUBANESWAR
Ersama
Balikuda
Daya
Kushabhadra
Prachi
Gobari
Kakatpur
CHILIKA
Bhargabi
Konark
Puri
SAR LAKE
BAY OF BENGAL
REFERENCES
RIVER
MANGROVES
ENCLOSED LAKES AND BAYS
COASTAL WETLANDS DEFUNCT RIVER MOUTH

Fig. No 2

representative shrubs such as *Kandelia rheedii* (Sindhuka), *Cynometra mimosoides* (Singada), *Acanthus ilicifolius* (Harakancha), *Aegiceras majus* (Teluni), *Lumnitzera racemosa* (Tunda/churanda), *Cerbera manghas* (Paniamba), *Brownlowia lanceolata* (Lata sundari). etc. deserve special mention. Ground flora in rather poor; *Suaeda maritima* (Giria), *Saaeda nudiflora* (Giria), *Salicornia braciata*, *Myriostachya wightiana*** (Nalia ghasa), Poteresia coartata** (Dhanidhana), *Cyperus malaccensis*, *Sesuvium portulastrum*, *Acrosticum aureum* (Kharakhari) etc. are some typical herbaceous species.

The common climbers/twinners are : *Derris uliginosa (Ketia)*, *Finlaysonia obovata*, *Tylophora tenuissima* (Luna swasamari), *Mucuna gigantea* (Luna baidanka) etc. Ommission of names of the associated plants such as *Pongamia glabra (Karanja)*, *Flagellaria indica* (Bahumruga), *Derris spinosa* etc. will not give the total picture of mangrove ecosystems.

In recent times various aspects such as distributional pattern, colonization process, socio-economic importance, management and conservation strategies have been highlighted by Banerjee (1984), Choudhury (1984, 1986, 1990a, and 1990b), Patnaik and Choudhury (1989), Biswal and Chuodhury (1993). In addition to this some stray reports pertinent to Orissa mangroves are also available.

The mangroves have multifacet benevolent attributes which have been realized by the scientific community, administrators as well as common people. In the first place the mangrove trees constitute a thick green belt in the coastal regions which considerably resist the severity of oceanic cyclones. Extensive root systems of herbaceous plants check soil erosion and many act as soil binders too. The leaves of *Myriostachya wightiana*, *Cyperus malaccensis*, *Phoenix paludosa* are used as thatch elements while, those of *Flagellaria indica*, *Cyperus malaccensis* are used for basket and mat making. Due to extensive utilization of *Myriostachya wightiana* as buffalo fodder this plant is vanishing in some places. The stem of *Heritiera minor*, *Phoenix paludosa*, *Ceriops roxburghiana* etc. are used as poles for the thatched house. A large number of plants such as *Carapa obovata*, *Acanthus ilicifolius*, *Sonneratia acida*, *Lumnitzera racemosa*, *Salvadora persica* etc. are potential source of medicine. *Sonneratia acida* and *Cynometra mimosoides* provide edible fruits to the nearby inhabitants while *Suaeda maritima*, *Suaeda nudiflora* are used as pot herbs. Similarly, timber and fuel yielding plants are over exploited as a result of which their population is decreasing. Besides these, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Sonneratia apetala*, *Sonneratia acida*, *Aegiceras corniculatum*, *Kandelia rheedii* and species of *Avicennia* are potential sources of tannin, saponins, flavonoids. The mangrove swamps provide ideal condition for aquaculture in general and prawn culture in particular. The forest meadows and swampy places support a large number of resident and migratory birds (Choudhury, 1987 and 1990a) while good quality of honey to the tune of 30/40 quintals per annum is being collected from the Bhitarkanika wildlife sanctuary (Mohanty, 1992).

Keeping in view of the above said socio-economic importance of mangrove ecosystem, protection, conservation and judicious exploitation of the various life forms should be considered critically. Prawn culture and mangrove plants play significant role in the socio-economic upliftment of this state. However, in many cases prawn culture has been causative factor for the disappearance of mangroves. Similarly, settlement of the migratory populace and paddy culture adopted by them have caused deforestation of mangrove. There is prolonged conflict among the Forest, Revenue and Fishery Departments of Orissa in this issue. Considering the aspects of conservation of mangroves for maintaining a salubrious environment in coastal belt, conservation of rare species (Anonymous, 1989) and economic perspectives, Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, have constituted the National Mangrove Committee embracing scientists, administrators, planners, as well as researchers for proper management and conservation of the mangroves in India. Basing on the guidelines/proposals given by the Steering Committee, similar state-level organisations are adopting necessary strategies for protection and management of the existing mangroves. Activities of several Non Government Organisations (NGOs) are also generating awareness for protection and proper utilization of the mangrove species. Rehabilitation/conservation/regeneration of this plant community basing on multi-disciplinary scientific studies, sustainable development in respect of aquaculture and agriculture should proceed in a harmonious way.

* The common/popular oriya names of the mangrove plants wherever available have been mentioned within the parenthesis against the scientific names cited by Haines (1921—1925) and Mooney (1950) in their respective treatises. The species marked with double asterisks (**) are new reports for the state of Orissa.

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ECONOMIC AND MEDICINAL PLANTS OF ORISSA

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Orissa, owing to its peculiar geographical location and wide range of physical features, embraces a diversified floristic composition and consequently vast economic potential. The extensive ranges of hilly forests, several lofty peaks, long stretch of coast-lines, excellent riverine system, brackish water Chilka lake and coastal plains altogether have endowed the state with a wide range of ecological habitats for a diverse and broad spectrum of vegetation. The forests of the State have innumerable number of medicinal and other economically important species known till date (Haines, 1921-25; Mooney, 1950; Bal, 1942).

The forest vegetation of the province supports the growth of a large number of valuable timber yielding trees. Of these, *Shorea robusta, Tectona grandis, Pterocarpus marsupium, Ougeinia dalbergioides, Xylia xylocarpa, Bridelia retusa, Dalbergia sissoo, Terminalia alata, Adina cordiflora, Anoqeissus latifolia, Albizia lebbeck* etc. predominantly occur throughout the hilly tracts of Orissa. Various types of bamboos like *Bambusa* spp., *Dendrocalamus strictus* & *Oxytanenthera nigrociliata* are fairly common which are largely used as house building materials, in paper industry and for furniture. *Caryota urens, Madhuca indica, Phoenix dactylifera* are essential plants for beverages in the countryside. The abundance of *Terminalia. alata* in some forest patches can undobtedly boost sericulture in the State. Edible fruits are obtained from *Mangifera indica, Artocarpus heterophyllus, Diospyros melanoxylon, D. malabarica, Ziziphus* spp., *Emblica officinalis, Borassus flabellifer, Syzigium cumini* and several other wild taxa. Similarly, *Dioscorea* spp., *Pueraria tuberosa, Pachyrhizus erosus,* and *Amorphophalus campanulatus* produce edible tubers which are used as vegetables. Sandal *(Santalum album)* grows wild in naure in the districts of Koraput and Kalahandi. Several species of *Calamus, Sterculia urens, S. villosa, Bauhinia vahlii, Boehmeria macrophylla, Urena lobata, Shorea robusta* etc., constitute important minor forest produces of the State for providing gums, resins, leaves, fibres etc.

The virgin forests of the State are the storehouse of several medicinal plants. The Similipal hill ranges, mythologically famous Gandhamardan hills, Mahendragiri and hilly tracts of koraput are some of the potential sources of indigenous herbal medicines. Some very important species are *Rauvolfia serpentina, Holarrhena antidysentrica, Hemidesmus indicus, Tylophora asthmatica, Centella asiatica, Strychnos nuxvomica, Curculigo orchioides, Catharanthus roseus, Bacopa moniieri, Cissampelos pareira, Gymnema sylvestris* etc. As many as 220 medicinal and quasi-medicinal plants have been reported to occur in Gandhamardan hills only [Panigrahi, 1963], though the actual number may be still more. Many commercially important essential-oil bearing plants growing wild or introduced, provide ample scope for perfumery industry in the State. *Pandanus fascicularis, Citrus* spp., *Vetiveria zizanioides, Cymbopogon* spp., are important from this point of view. Besides, plants like *Madhuca indica, Azadirachta indica, Simarouba glauca, Pongamia pinnata, Calophyllum inophyllum, Schleichera oleosa, Ricinus communis* etc., are potential producers of large quantities of oils for commercial utilization. A number of taxa producing latex and juice can, to some extent, augment the energy requirements through conversion of these products to combustible hydrocarbons. Plant belonging to the families Euphorbiaceae, Apocynaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Sapotaceae, Convolvulaceae are rich in latex and other exudates.

Orchids, which have aroused a lot of interest from commercial point of view as well as conservational aspect, are fairly common in different ecological habitats throughout the State. Of an estimated 1,200 species of orchids in India, about 120 species occur only in Orissa including several rare ones (Misra, 1982). Through hybridization and modern methods of plant propagation, horticulturally important varieties can be raised and multiplied for commercial supply. Presently, wild relatives of cultivated plant have been given much importance because of their role in crop improvement and crop evolutionary studies. Orissa harbours a large number of wild species and varieties of cultivated crop plants. The Jeypore tract in Koraput district has been identified as a secondary centre of origin for rice. Many of its wild progenitors like *Oryza granulata, O. rufipogon, O. jeyporensis* and species of some closely related genera like *Hygrorhiza aristata, Leersia hexandra* occur in profusion throughout the State. Besides, *Atylosia cajanifia, Coffea benghalensis, Citrus aurantium, Rosa clinophylla, Eleusine indica, Curcuma* spp., *Saccharum* spp., are very significant from this aspect which can be maintained as germ-plasm collections and utilized for crop improvement programmes.

The mangrove forests along the Orissa coast are highly resourceful at ecosystem and component level. They help the economy of the local inhabitants by providing fuelwood, timber, construction materials, agricultural implements, extractives and in traditional medicine. Of the several economically important mangrove elements, *Phonenix paludosa, Xylocarpus granatum, Cynometramimosoides, Sonneratia acida, Heritiera* spp., *Suaeda* spp., and *Excoecaria agallocha* deserve special mention. Among the states of India, Orissa has got the second highest number of tribal population comprising of as many as some 60 odd tribes. These people possess fairly good knowledge about the medicinal and other uses of several plants. Different traditions, beliefs, needs and cultures of these people, if recorded; will undoubted reveal new sources of herbal drugs, edible plants and other aspects of plant utilization. Several uncommon cultivars of pulses and other food crops are in cultivation among the tribals representing rich germplasm resources.

Due to human interference of various categories and magnitudes, the population of several economically important plants have been reduced considerably. As many as 100 species come under the category of rare/endangered taxa. These valuable plant resources must be preserved *in situ* or *ex situ* before they are completely wiped out. These, in long run, may prove useful in some way or other. Considering the economic potentiality of plant resources in Orissa, it seems that the State must be thoroughly surveyed from floristic point of view with special reference to medicinal and economic plants. Check lists of all such plant groups must be prepared in an urgent basis for effective utilisation of these natural resources, which is a need of the hours.

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SCOPE OF RESEARCH IN DIFFERENT MEDICAL FIELDS IN ORISSA

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The state of Orissa does neither lack in talent nor natural resources. These provide ample opportunity for study in different subjects of Modern Medical Science, Ayurveda and Homoeopathy.

At present there are three Medical Colleges in Orissa at Cuttack, Berhampur and Burla with undergraduate, post-graduate and super-specialisation study facilities. The present medical education controlled by DMET (Director of Medical Education and Training) mainly prepares basic doctors and specialists for PHCs, Dispensaries and Hospitals in the state. Some doctors take up jobs in different teaching institutions inside and outside the State including different colleges and hospitals in foreign countries.

As for other two systems of medicines i.e. Ayurveda and Homoeopathy large number of doctors are trained every year from Government and recognised private Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic Colleges of the State though there is not very ample facility for their placement in Government service. Few Ayurvedic Colleges have post graduate courses and recently Utkal University has introduced post-graduation course in Homoeopathy. Truely speaking these two systems of medicine i.e. (Indian system of Medicine & Homoeopathy) have more scope in research activities than modern medicine which is far more advanced in foreign countries.

In this brief essay the aim is to tell about few important fields in which different research activities can be taken up without much financial burden.

At present in Orissa we face following medical problems according to priority.

1. Problems of malnutrition in children and women.

2. Population explosion.

3. Problems of Resistant malaria and

4. Control of Diarrhoeal and related diseases during epidemics, to name a few.

Though there are other medical problems like control of communicable diseases in childhood, provision of safe delivery and motherhood and road accidents etc. the above four are of greater importance.

Rice, dal and potatoes are staple foods in Orissa and other cereals like *biri, chana, wheat, muga, buta, harada* etc. are mostly used during festive occasions as cakes, palau and other dishes. They lack in protein, iron and vitamins. Provision of good quality milk, fish, animal proteins and green-leafy vegetables will go in a long way to provide required protein, iron and vitamins. Doctors in Social and Preventive medicine speciality can take up research in food habits of people and may find a way for provision of milk and animal proteins etc. in mass-scale with ample production and proper health education.

Values of milk and milk products with therapeutic and nutritive values may be also taken up by Ayurvedic doctors. Age old saying that vegetarian diet is healthier and more proper than non vegetarian diet can prove to be a real study in this discipline. Bad effects of animal meat and eggs can also be worked out,if any.

Population explosion is not only the problem of our state or country but of the whole globe. Though lot of things have been done in this field starting from oral pills to minilap operation and long acting injections every method has its advantages and disadvantages. Operations provide permanent and not easily changeable sterilisation. Again condoms and creams involve personal disliking and taboos and pills create a lot of health hazards though very negligible in number. Till today there is not a very simple, safe, effective and liked by all method for contraception. Need for an effective and simple method available indigenously more specifically an Ayurvedic or Homoeopathic fruit of research can not be overemphasized. Particularly Ayurveda provides a very wide spectrum for such activities. Though contraception is a modern concept and ancient scriptures including sacred Vedas do not speak anything about it. Still then there are a lot of herbs and shrubs and climbers which can provide a good answer to this problem.

Homoeopathic medicines are also not very far behind the door of anti–fertility research. Many potent medicines are worthwhile in it and at present following 3 sets of medicine groups are available :

(a) Medicaments which regularise menstruation and make normal pattern periods in abnormal periods.

(b) Those which make normal menstruation an-ovulatory, preventing conception and

(c) Drugs which cause abortion in early stages of pregnancy (within 12 weeks) without causing much distress to patient with noncomplications.

Elaborate training of registered homoeopaths in obstetrics and Gynaecology fields including good knowledge in basic medical sciences like Physiology and Anatomy is utmost essential.

Today malaria has become one of the most dreadful diseases in our state primarily due to two reasons,

(a) Drug resistance shown by most of the malarial parasites, hence posing a great disadvantage in effective treatment and (b) Resistance of the mosquitoes to insecticides and newer chemicals.

'Chloroquin' the main tool of treatment for malaria is encountered with resistance in over 50% cases and sometimes few strains show resistance to 'quinine' also. Basically all drugs of malaria i.e. 4—Amino Quinoline, 6—Amino Quinolines and quinine are plant alkaloid derivatives. Hence Ayurveda is the most suitable branch in medicine for research in relation to antimalarial drugs. Some of the homoeopathic drugs are also effective in malaria. Drugs like 'China', 'Belladona', 'Chincona' and many more can be researched into to find an effective homoeopathic remedy for resistance cases of malaria. Neema tree (Azadirachta-indica) its different parts like leaf, buds, flowers and bark etc. posses antibacterial and antiprotozoal properties. It purifies air and repells mosquitoes. Plantation of Neema trees sorrounding living places will prevent growth of mosquitoes and propagation of malaria.

In the field of diarrhoea and enteric diseases sanitation and provision of safe water for drinking and cooking purpose are two most essential requirements. Enteric diseases are primarily due to food and water contamination with bacteria, virus, protozoa and toxins etc. And even though the water is of good quality contaminated hands and pots make it polluted. Proper hand washing after defecation and before taking food is one of the most important health advice for prevention of diarrhoeal diseases.

Dehydration leading to peripheral circulatory failure and renal tubular damage causing acute renal failure (ARF) are two main dangers of diarrhoea. Here rapid replacement of body fluid in shape of saline is urgently required to combat the loss of fluid due to loose motion, vomiting and peripheral vasodilation. Delay in this causes loss of life as occurs in many cases.

Saline set and personnel to administer it become not easily available in remote areas where oral Redehydration powder for making O.R. solution is provided in packets which if properly administered gives good results.

In Bangla Desh and Thailand research in medical fields reveals that green coconut water and pure rice water are as effective as saline drips. Green coconut water contains high level of potassium which is most essential in times of diarrhoea. Rice water contains beneficial yeasts which protect the integrity of intestinal mucosa (lining of intestine) and prevents growth of harmful bacteria. There are large number of commonly available Ayurvedic mixtures very effective when given in primary stages of diarrhoea and check further progress of the disease.

Homoeopaths claim very effective treatment of cholera with potent drugs and in the past famous homoeopaths have effectively saved large number of lives with potent homoeopathic drugs during different cholera epidemics. Discovery of new drugs in this line can be taken up to prevent diarrhoea with judicious selection of effective drug.

Though the above four topics are only samples from the great ocean of medical sciences, the scope is very wide. There is nothing more international than disease and man has to fight against diseases in order to thrive and live positive life. It is not quite difficult to carry out research at individual level even without any Government assistance in Homoeopathy and Ayurvedic disciplines. Modern Medical Science involves sophisticated instruments and high tech procedures not always available at all places. Orissa, also is a very good place for research in Filariasis seen in coastal areas; Sickle cell Anemia seen in Western areas, and yaws, bejel and pinta seen in Adivasi areas.

Provision of funds from Health and F.W. budget of the state not only to Medical College but also to different peripheral institutions along with release of funds from agencies like ICMR, UGC, H & FW Department of Government of India, UNICEF, WHO. and FAO, etc. also can be insisted upon.

"Sarve Shantu Niramaya"–Let all beings live in good health.

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Hon'ble Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam inaugurates the State Level World Population Day 1995 Celebration at Soochana Bhawan on 11-7-1995

NEHRU YUVA KENDRAS IN ORISSA—AN OVERVIEW

Dr. U. C. Sahoo

INTRODUCTION

Youth constitute an important part of human resources and have been recognised as such since ages. They are being the mine of latent power and possibilities always used to form the vanguard in the task of nation building. During pre-independence period youth as a potential force was reckoned with as the backbone of the nationalist movement against colonial and imperialistic domination. In independent India youth have also played a leadership as well as catalytic role in accelerating the process of social and national development by being involved in ongoing multi-variant programmes such as mass literacy campaign, social forestry, poverty alleviation programmes etc. As such youth energy is always used as an important resource, a revolutionising force in social reconstruction.

Youth population has remarkable share (32·37%) in the total population and about 73 per cent of them have been living in rural areas. As it is said India lives in villages and the development of rural society is the development of nation. Furthermore, 80 per cent of our national income comes from agriculture and allied sectors. Therefore intrinsically the development of nation rests on development of rural set-up through utilisation of youths energy in the fields of agriculture, health and environment.

Realising such importance of rural youth dynamism, Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYK) was evolved in 1972 on recommendation of the National Advisory Board on Youth, under the Department of Youth Affairs, Government of India, to upgrade the innate resources and capacities of rural youth power through institutional means. Since then NYK serves as an effective agency in channelising youths involvement in economic, cultural, social, educational development as well as enrichment of the environment by the conservation, regeneration of existing resources and building up all-round awareness.

This paper is an outcome of the study on all functioning Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYK) in Orissa, conducted by Centre for Youth and Social Development, Bhubaneswar at the behest of Nehru Yuva Sangathan, New Delhi. It broadly analyses the structural and functional network of NYK programmes in its operation and it's impact on changing context of rural development.

METHODOLOGY :

The reference period of the study was for two years (1990-92). The respondents were selected on basis of purposive and quota samples according to convenience. The study entailed functionaries of NYKs, youth clubs, government machineries, public representatives, NGOs, and host of community members who were directly or indirectly associated with the programmes. As such samples covered were 9 District Youth Coordinators, 49 National Service Volunteers, 110 Youth Clubs with 168 office bearers, i. e. President/Secretary and 610 club members, 21 district level development functionaries like Collector, DFO, CDMO, 17 Block level development functionaries such as BDO, Asst. BDO, 18 public representatives like M.P., M.L.A., Block Chairman, etc., 15 NGOs functionaries in the rank of Chairman, and Secretary, and among community members were 154 village pradhans, 171 women, 220 scheduled castes, 413 scheduled tribes, 278 other poverty sections. The information was administered through structured interview guides.

NYKs IN ORISSA :

In Orissa, NYK came into operation in 1972 as an enabling agency to mobilise the youth spirit for constructive activities in fulfilling the life and needs of the people in rural areas. All the NYKs are located in district headquarters. The organisational structure of each Kendras as elsewhere in the country includes one youth coordinator, one accountant-*cum*-clerk, and two group–D personnel as office staff. Among the field functionaries are one coach, 4 to 8 National Service Volunteers, 2 to 3 vocational training instructors. The coordinator is an administrator as well as field worker and has a central role in the functioning of the Kendras. Each Kendra is normally guided by their own plan of action in the formulation and implementation of programmes. All Kendras have uniform pattern of programmes and activities with little variation in district-wise. These mainly include Training for Youth Leadership and Self-employment (TYLS), vocational (technical and non-technical) training, community work camps, sports and cultural programmes, formation, organisation and affiliation of youth clubs, and awareness campaigns. In programme formulation and implementation each Kendra develops the contents on its own keeping in view the local conditions and requirements. The Kendras operate on a collaborative basis with the affiliate youth clubs, and government development departments in executing its programmes and also play a decisive role in coordinating programmes of other agencies.

PROGRAMME SCENARIO :

Since inception, NYKs in Orissa have built up a crucial youth network in social engineering. The emphasis is laid on youth's self-reliance and their participation in social, cultural and economic development of rural society. To invoke such mission, NYKs have undertaken a few afore-mentioned regular programmes.

Starting with the Training for Youth Leadership and Self-employment (TYLS), eighteen such programmes have undertaken during the reference period. Altogether 512 non-student rural youths had participated in the programme. Only 10·2 per cent of them have reported tried to start self-employment ventures like bee-keeping, pisciculture, mushroom cultivation etc. Yet none of them have started a successful self-employment enterprise mainly due to lack of timely financial and necessary support from Bank and Government agencies. On vocational training, 48 non-technical and 14 technical programmes have been conducted in which 440 participants were in technical and 2298 in non-technical training courses. Infrastructural facilities for practical technical VT like radio, TV repairing, motor winding, etc. were not sufficient for their training requirement. Only 11·11 per cent of the trainees have found some employment earning average monthly income of Rs. 560/-. A large chunk of them are sitting idle due to lack of marketing facilities. On work camp, 19 of such programmes have been conducted wherein 1131 youths had participated and on an average 275 mandays were spent for a single work camp. Assets created out of these camps were mainly youth club construction, check-dam on a stream for irrigation purposes, community building, cleaning and construction of village roads, embankment formation and cleaning of village ponds, etc. On aspect of game and sports NYK acts as stimulating force on raising the enthusiasm of youths. The games like football and volley ball are more popular among the youths. NYK supports coach and provides necessary sports equipment and act as sports promoting organisation. Similarly NYK also promotes cultural programmes in youth clubs mostly involving them in raising various social awareness campaigning like family planning, total literacy programme, anti-liquor drive, forest preservation, etc. Likewise, NYKs are key in promoting various block level campaigning which laid through cycle rallies, padayatras, national integration camp, etc. in which 3762 youths had participated.

Apart from these own core programmes, NYKs have undertaken many programmes in coordination with government departments of Health and Family Welfare, Social Forestry, Elementary Education such as immunisation camps, family welfare programme, environment and literacy campaign.

Apart from these innumerable programmes undertaken, NYKs also act as a link agency between Government Bank and youth clubs in sanctioning incentive grants/loans for purpose of youth club construction and purchase of necessary materials for self-enterprise. Formation, promotion and registration of youth clubs is a major function of NYKs.

EXTERNAL ASSOCIATES PERCEPTION :

Since inception NYKs have addressed to upgrade the innate resources and capacities of youth to develop in the larger process of development through various schemes and programmes. Nevertheless, the perception of concerned associates towards NYKs objectives, operation, impact, etc. found to be limited. The government functionaries at the district level like Collector, Sub-Collector and other related administrative officials are normally not fully aware regarding the full range of activities of NYK. Most of these functionaries have attended limited programmes like sports and cultural programmes etc. as they are used to receive invitation to inaugurate these programmes. District organising committee for NYK as an effective body to guide and monitor NYK activities is by and large defunct and not in operation since long period.

On the other hand, awareness of Block level functionaries (BLFs) on NYKs programme and mission comparatively found more promising. Almost all BLFs (94·1%) opined that the objectives of NYK as described are much relevant to the needs and aspirations of the youth. However, their awareness and regarding work camps and cultural programmes was very positive perception.

The involvement of people's representatives in NYK activities is rather limited. MPs, MLAs are scarcely available and their involvement is marginal in NYK programmes. Most of them proface youth club organisation is a very important activity of NYK. Currently many upcoming NGOs functioning in various fields as promoter of development work are also not aware regarding NYK programmes and activities. However, some of the NGOs considered NYKs activities relevant to the needs and aspirations of rural youth.

Similarly, the grassroot level workers of youth club office bearers and club members exhibited a moderate level of awareness of NYK programme particularly more in village cleanliness, renovation of village ponds, cultural programmes and sports activities. But they felt there was inadequate follow-up programmes.

The sharing of community member's perception on awareness and involvement in NYK programme was observed dismal. They are far off in receiving direct benefits of the programme. Women and other weaker section's involvement were observed to be limited. However, a few of them had taken part in NYK programme related to community activities like labour camps/cultural programmes, etc.

CONCLUSION :

Notwithstanding to some of the limitations, by and large, the implementation of NYK programmes had positive impact on the community through rural youth organisation programmes. Undoubtedly NYK stands as a mile stone in consolidating the potentiality of youth folk as nucleus of developmental action at village level through organisation and formation of youth clubs. The effective harnessing of their energies through the institutional means for the process of Nation Building will bear good results in the future.

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A STUDY ON CULTURAL ASPECTS OF A PRIMITIVE TRIBE IN PARALAKHEMUNDI MALIAH

Ganesh Prasad Mishra

Erstwhile Paralakhemundi Zamindari, present Gajapati District in Orissa State is a land of great cultural heritage and of bounties of nature. Its history is shaped by several powerful forces. In pre-historic period this region was a part of Eastern Deccan. In the ancient period this land was inhabited by certain non-Aryan people,like the Savaras and the Khondas. Later during the Vedic period there came, the Dravidians followed by the Aryans. In the early historic days this region enjoyed the name of 'Savara-Malias' after the name of the Savaras. Ever since the dawn of history, Dravidian and Aryan people began to settle in different parts of Savara-Malia. By certain historical forces this part of the land in different period of time down the ages remained as an integral part within the confines of several kingdoms.

The Saoras of Paralakhemundi Agency can be regarded as a unique human race. The study of their culture is of absorbing interest, itself. No primitive human race of Orissa is given so much of attention by the research scholars as to this.

The Saoras appear in Parlakhemundi town time and again. Ordinary Saoras come down to Parlakhemundi almost everyday to sell fire-wood, charcoal, vegetables and forest products etc. During their festive days of 'Makar Sankranti' they come in groups and move down the streets dancing. Their dance provides enough of entertainment and amusement to the pople. This is a unique annual affair worth watching. Impressive Saora dance and its captivating style attract attention of all. Native genius and inherent talent of a unique human race get amply exposed when they dance in joy and jubilation.

The Saora tribe of Parlakhemundi Agency is one of the most primitive tribes in India and the most notable tribe out of 62 primitive tribes of Orissa. In our country out of 250 different Scheduled Tribes 72 Tribes are marked 'Primitive'. As per 1971 Census there are as many as 250 Scheduled Tribes in India speaking about 100 languages and 225 subsidiary languages. 7% of country's population consisted of tribals and 23.11% of Orissa's population consisted of tribals.

As per Government of Orissa Survey of 1966 there are as many as 15 primitive tribes in the State and out of them the Saoras have been considered as one of the most primitive ones. As per different dependable survey report there were 36,845 Saoras in 1872. In 1881 they were 20,871, in 1921, they were 90,144 and in 1941 their number reached 95,479 and 29,521 Saoras inhabited in the Ganjam Agency and Ganjam plains respectively.

Quite a good number of Saoras inhabit Parlakhemundi Agency in places like Gumma, Serango, Rayagada, Jeerango, Gandahati, Mohendragiri. They are also found in large number in Chandragiri Mutha, Ramagiri Mutha, Kerradanta Mutha and in hills of East and North-East of Gunupur Taluk, and also in vast stretches of land up above Mahendratanaya and Vansadhara river in the beginning parts of the Eastern Ghats and in the villages within 20 miles of Pottasingi in Koraput District.

In complexion, physical stature, and ethnic description a Saora man presents a distinct physical constitution of his own who is totally discernible and distinguishable from other people of the plains. A Saora is a dwarf, short-statured brown coloured man who puts on a long brightly coloured loin cloth hanging down his waist.

A. C. Benarjee (in the Book History of India, page-50, Vols 1, Cal-1922) describes the Saora as a mountaineer, a savage and a barbarian.

Soaras spoke Mundari and Kolarian language. They are an important section of the Kolarian tribes. The Hill Soaras of Paralakhemundi region retain their own language and very few of them speak any other. Almost all the Saoras speak their original language though sometimes Oriya and Telgu languages have their own influence on it. Their language is an Austro–Asiatic type belonging to Munda family. The Saora language is flexible. Alternative of words are found in their spoken words. The second word as synonym to the first word is always repeated as Tangli–mangli (cattle), Jajongi–Yojongi (ancestors), andlei and sundlei (the bubbling of water).

According to an episode described in the *Ramayana*, Ramachandra while passing through this region for the first time came in contact with a Savara Chief namely 'Guha'. Guha or Guhak who subsequently became a friend of Sri Rama, escorted Ramachandra all along to ensure fulfilment of Rama's promise. In another part of the *Ramayana* there is the description that while Ramachandra was searching out his wife Sita who had been kidnapped by Ravana, the king of Srilanka, Ramachandra met with a Savara lady, named 'Savari' in Chanchavati Forest of Koraput District, identified as the Dandakaranya Forest of Koraput District. Ramachandra with, great fondness, received tasted fruit from her.

The *Mahabharata* mentions that the Savaras of Kalinga had fought in the Mahabharata war on the side of Duryodhana. The episode of Ekalavya and his exemplary sacrifice in front of his 'Guru' Dronachaya is an interesting example of deep reverence of a disciple towards his Guru. In Swargarohana Chapter of *Mahabharata* Lord Krishna is said to have been killed by a Savara named 'Jara'. There are innumerable references to these Savaras or Savara races in various epics describing the Saoras a unique superior people.

The Great Greek Geographers like Pliny and Ptolemy have described these tribes living in the parts of Eastern Ghats as Swari, Sabarai,identified as Saora which is derived from the term 'Swari' of Pliny and 'Sabarai' of Ptolemy. To General Cunningham the word 'Saura' should have been derived from the Scythian word Sagar which means an axe, for Savaras are found carrying axes in their hands everytime as a useful instrument for collecting food and hunting animals.

The Saora people of Paralakhemundi Malias were deeply religious. From very ancient time, they used to pay worship to various Gods and Goddesses. They call 'Sonum' to any God. They perform a lot of religious practices and practically every religious activity is done with a sacrifice of either buffalo or pig or even hen. Saora religious belief personifies their gods. By propitiating deities through sacrifices of either buffalo or pig or even hen a Saora could banish his anxiety and put things right. Elvin has discovered at least 171 gods and G. Sitapati has listed Saora gods of 21 variety.

Saoras are a quite people with high sense of morality. They are co–operative among themselves. They are industrious, fond of their solidarity, mutual hospitality and co–operation. They do not generally conceal the crime they comit. They are afraid of the ancestors or Socerers etc. They are steadfast in keeping up their oaths and promises.

The interaction of the Saoras with caste Hindus of the Plains has had remained a continuous phenomenon in the cultural history of Paralakhemundi Malias. This contact had been continuous and firsthand, originally the Saoras inhabited on the hill–tops as Jungleman or dwellers of forest. Some of them constantly migrate from one place to the other under forces of compelling circumstances. The oncoming of the Dravidians and Aryans to India led to cultural contact between them and the tribals with an approach of tolerance and non–hostility. That interaction phenomena continued for later parts of history even upto the present day. The kings of Kalinga had been using them as their soldiers under the feudal kings of Khemundi region they were working as soldiers, workers and messengers. Gomango Saoras acted as village heads who used to hold frequent meetings with the kings.

In a rapidly changing world the Saoras today are confronted with strange experiences and unsurmountable problems. In the olden days they remained completely aloof, in a state of utter disillusionment and object deprivation, because of lack of shelter ., food, water, and some of their problems somewhat eased out with the passage of time. In this situation of transition the role of Saoras in the socio–economic development of the Paralakhemundi region is extremely significant.

Greater attention warrants the uplift of the Saoras' lot with a view to effecting a total all out development of the Indian nation.

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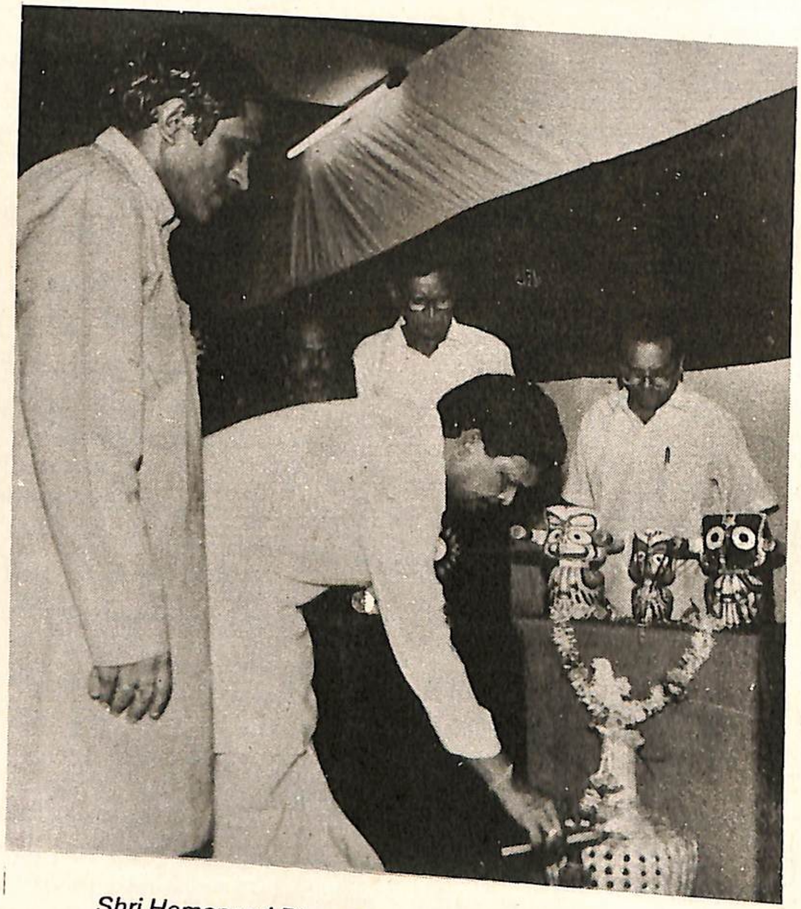

Shri Hemanand Biswal, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister is inaugurating the National Gramashree Mela at Puri on 30-6-1995. Shri Nabin Chandra Narayan Das, Minister of State, Panchayati Raj was the Chief Guest in the function

SHANTI SWARUP BHATNAGAR PRIZE WINNER
DR. UMA CHARAN MOHANTY

B. B. Patnaik

Born on June 29, 1948 at Khorat, P. S. and District Jagatsinghpur (Orissa) Dr. Uma Charan Mohanty is the eldest son of Shri Prahallad Charan Mohanty and Smt. Basanta Kumari Mohanty of Village Khorat situated at a distance of about 10 Kms. from Jagatsingpur by the side of Balihaunri–Naugan road. He is the first Oriya to be honoured with such prestigious award.

Dr. U. C. Mohanty joined the India Meteorological Department in 1971 after a brilliant academic career. He was selected by the Ministry of Education, Government of India for Ph. D. programme in tropical meteorology under USSR Government fellowship scheme. He joined the Ph. D. programme at Odessa Hydro–Meteorological Institute, Ukraine in 1974 and was awarded Ph. D. degree by the Supreme Attestation Commission, USSR, Moscow in 1979 for the research work on "Tropical Cyclones in the Bay of Bengal and Objective Methods for Prediction of their Movements". On return from USSR, he joined the Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, IIT Delhi in 1979. Since Ist January 1993, Dr. Mohanty is on deputation as Joint Adviser-*cum*-Joint Director (Research) at the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecsting (NCMRWF), New Delhi under the Department of Science & Technology for the development and operationalization of an appropriate medium-range weather forecasting system.

His academic persuits helped him visit a number of leading Universities and Research Institutes in UK and USA to work on Tropical Meteorology with emphasis on Asian summer monsoon. He was a visiting scientist in the Department of Meteorology, University of Reading, UK during 1980-81 ; European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts, UK during 1982-83, 1984 and 1988-89 ; National Centre for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, USA 1986 ; Naval Research Laboratory, Washington DC, 1986 ; Dynamic Meteorology Laboratory (LMD), Paris, 1989; Florida State University, USA, 1992 and North Carolina State University, USA, 1992. He was invited by International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy as a visiting faculty to deliver lectures on his specialisation in 1987, 1990 and 1994. Currently in addition to his own assignment he is also serving as Visiting Professor in the Department of Physics and Meteorology, I. I. T., Kharagpur.

Dr. Mohanty has received a number of awards and honours ; Merit Scholarship of Government of Orissa, 1967-69; National Scholarship of Government of India, 1969-71; Prof. M.G. Deshpande Award of National Society of Fluid Mechanics and Fluid Power, 1984; coveted 12th MAUSAM Award with Gold Medal from India Meteorological Department, 1989; Elected Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, 1992 and now the prestigious and distinguished Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for the year 1993 in the discipline of Earth, Atmospheric, Ocean and Planetary Sciences. In the discipline of Meteorology, Dr. Mohanty is the first scientist to get this Award.

His extensive study on the heat and moisture budgets of the Asian summer monsoon revealed for the first time the sequence of changes that take place in the dynamic and thermo-dynamic structure of air-mass during the onset, active and deficient phases of the monsoon over India. This work done by Dr. Mohanty earned him the prestigius 12th MAUSAM Award. **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar** Prize has been conferred on him for his outstanding contributions leading to the understanding and prediction/simulation of the

Asian summer monsoon circulation using mathematical weather prediction models of the atmosphere.

RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS :

An original approach based on the application of theory to explain observed features of the Asian summer monsoon is the main characteristic of his work. Dr. Mohanty's major contributions are the comprehensive diagnostic studies with regional and global data sets to provide a better understanding of the onset and maintenance of the summer monsoon over India, the development of appropriate regional weather prediction models for Indian sub-continent, sensitivity experiments with global models to understand the role of physical processes and diabatic forcing on the onset and maintenance of the summer monsoon. He has also introduced suitable modifications to parameterization of certain physical processes based on special observations for a better simulation/prediction of the tropical weather systems with global and regional models.

Significant contributions have also been made in development of appropriate numerical and statistical–dynamical models for prediction of the movement of tropical cyclones in the Bay of Bengal. He was also associated with the development of a number of numerical models for a better prediction of storm surges and inland inundation of surges from the Bay of Bengal in association with intense tropical cyclones.

Dr. Mohanty has to his credit more than 60 research papers in the field of Atmospheric Sciences which are published in reputed national and international reviewed journals.

DIPRO,
Kendrapara.

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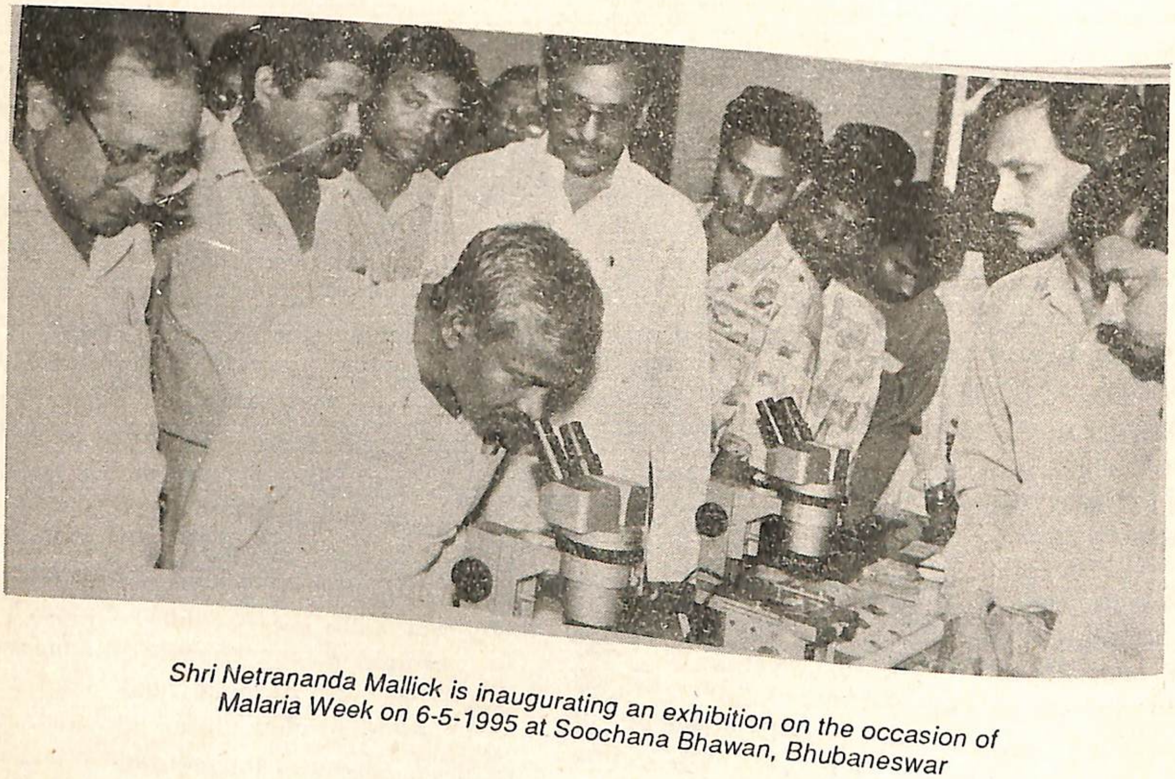


Shri Netrananda Mallick is inaugurating an exhibition on the occasion of Malaria Week on 6-5-1995 at Soochana Bhawan, Bhubaneswar

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik discussing with Shri K. P. Singh Deo, Union Minister of State, Information & Broadcasting in his Secretariat Chamber on 6-7-1995

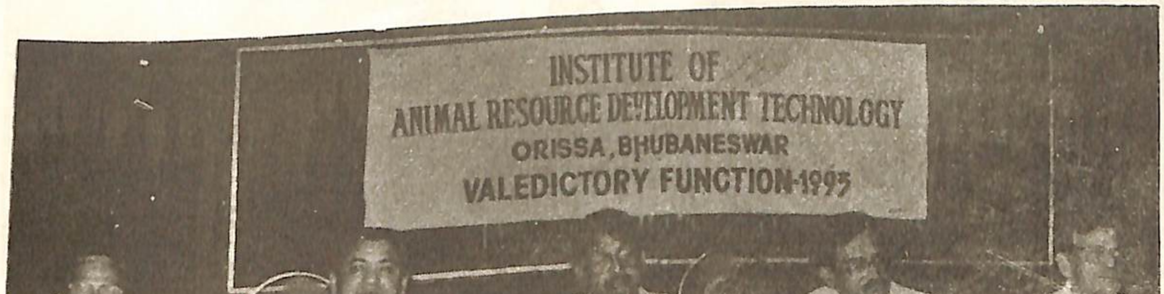
Secretary to Prime Minister Shri B. N. Yugandhar and other members of the Central Team meeting Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik in his Secretariat Chamber on 9-7-1995

Mr. Frank G. Wisner, US Ambassador to India calls on Governor Shri G. Ramanujam at Raj Bhawan, Bhubaneswar on 19-6-1995

Mr. Frank G. Wisner, US Ambassador called on Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik in his Secretariat Chamber on 19-6-1995

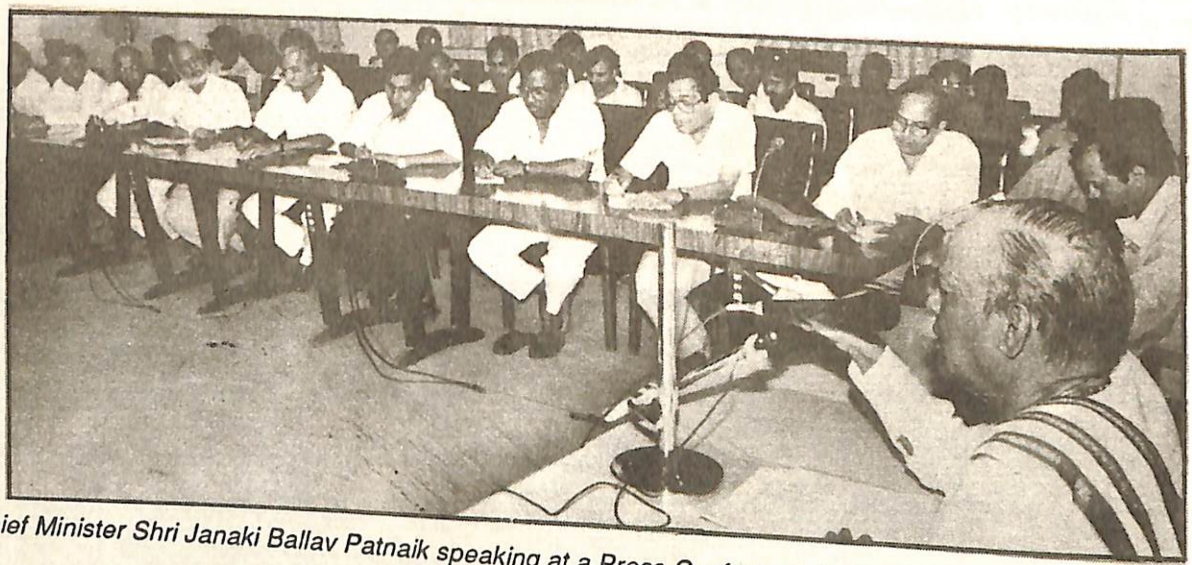
TRUST HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL DAY
SEMINAR ON
BLEMS & P SIBILITIES OF MASS PARTICIPATION IN GOVT. PR AMME
CHANDBALI. • DATE-04.06

Deputy Chief Minister Shri Hemanand Biswal is addressing Seminar on "Problems and Possibilities of Mass Participation in Government Programmes" at Trust High School Ground Jashipur, Chandabali on 4-6-1995. Minister, Information and P.R. Shri Netrananda Mallick and Minister, Welfare Shri Gajadhar Majhi are also present in the Seminar

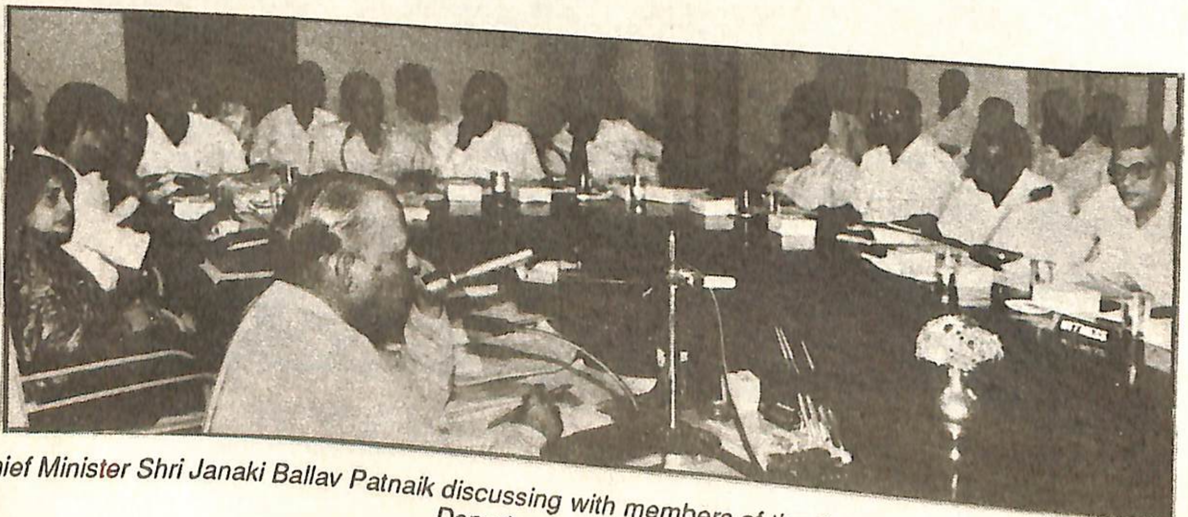

INSTITUTE OF
ANIMAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT TECHNOLOGY
ORISSA, BHUBANESWAR
VALEDICTORY FUNCTION-1995

Deputy Chief Minister Shri Hemanand Biswal; Minister of State, Animal Resources Development Shri Prakash Chandra Debata; Special Secretary, Planning & Coordination Department, Shri Ajit Kumar Tripathy attended the valedictory function of Institute of Animal Resources Development & Technology on 10-7-1995 at Soochana Bhawan

Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik presiding over a meeting of State Level Natural Calamities in the Secretariat Conference Hall on 8-6-1995. Members of Council of Ministers, M.Ps. and M.L.As. and Senior State Government officials are present



Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik speaking at a Press Conference in the Secretariat Conference Hall on 27-6-1995

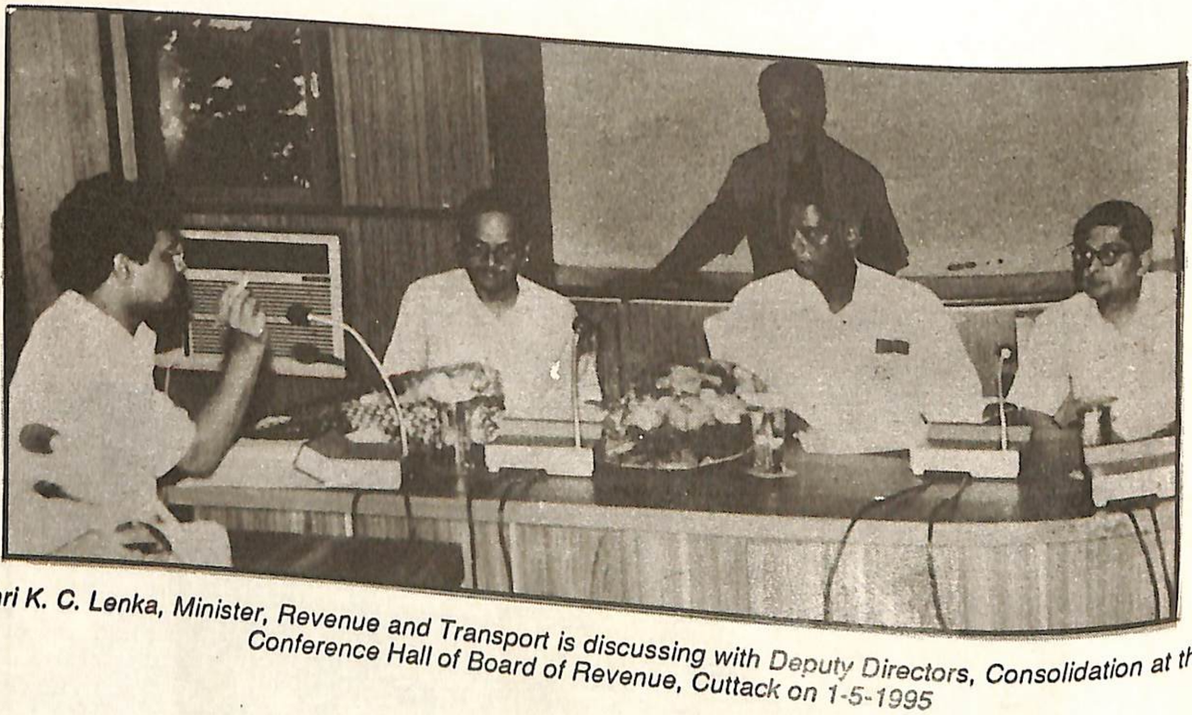


Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik discussing with members of the Subject Committee on Agriculture Department on 12-7-1995

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik planting a sapling of Phasi in the premises of Foresters' Training Institute, Ghatikia on the occasion of the 46th Van Mahotsav Celebrations on 6-7-1995

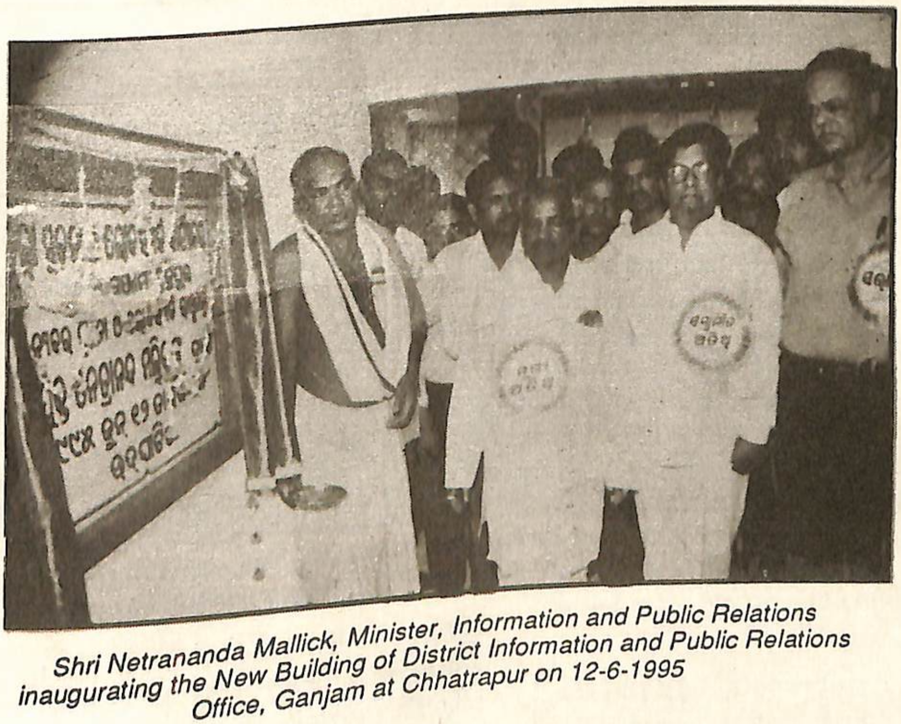
Minister, Information and P. R. Shri Netrananda Mallick is distributing plants to the inhabitants of Chandrasekharpur organised by PECUC, Bhubaneswar on 16-7-1995

Hon'ble Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam speaks at the 15th management convention at Hotel Prachi organised by the Bhubaneswar Management Forum on 7-7-1995



Shri K. C. Lenka, Minister, Revenue and Transport is discussing with Deputy Directors, Consolidation at the Conference Hall of Board of Revenue, Cuttack on 1-5-1995

Deputy Chief Minister Shri Basanta Kumar Biswal and Minister for Planning & Coordination Shri Bhagabat Prasad Mohanty inaugurating the National Vocational Training Centre at the Bharat Scouts & Guide Bhavan, Bhubaneswar on 16-7-1995



Shri Netrananda Mallick, Minister, Information and Public Relations inaugurating the New Building of District Information and Public Relations Office, Ganjam at Chhatrapur on 12-6-1995

Smt. Jayanti Patnaik, Chairperson, National Mahila Commission, is addressing the Athagarh Journalists' Union on 10-7-1995 at Athagarh. Minister, Information and Public Relations Shri Netrananda Mallick is gracing the meeting as Chief Guest

Minister, I.&P.R., Shri Netrananda Mallick inaugurating the newly constructed DIPRO office at Rourkela on 24-6-1995

PADDY TRANSPLANTING MACHINE

Dr. Satyananda Swain

1. Introduction

Paddy is one of the important crops of the world and is grown between latitudes 45°N and 40°S embracing Central America, Southern half of USA, the West Indies, most of the South America, whole of Africa, Australia, India, Sri Lanka China, Japan and South East Asia. Of the total area under paddy cultivation in the world, about 90 per cent are situated in wet tropical South and South East Asia. In India, paddy is grown in 40 million hectares which is nearly 40 per cent of the area under cereals.

Rice being the staple food of the people of Orissa, it continues to be the leading crop of the state and is grown extensively. Three categories of paddy such as autumn, winter and summer paddy are grown by the farmers and winter paddy constitutes about 74 per cent of total paddy area. The area under paddy was 44·04, 45·47 and 58·28 lakh hectares in 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 rspectively. The production in the corresponding years were estimated to be 52·75, 66·60 and 53·88 lakh MT respectively (Anonymous, 1994).

The crop is grown both on dry and wet land conditions. The seeds are either broadcasted or drilled on well prepared seed bed on high lands and seedlings are transplanted in puddled field of low lands. Transplanting is widely practised in most rice growing areas. Paddy transplanting is one of the most labour intensive operations in rice production. The labour requirement for transplanting is approximately 25 per cent of the total labour requirement of the crop.

In recent years, intensive research on paddy transplanters have made great progress in many Asian countries, notably in Japan. Simple manually operated transplanters have been developed and demonstrated in Korea, China and India.

2. Importance of Transplanting

Experience and experiments in all the paddy growing areas confirm that higher yields are obtained from transplanting over direct broadcasting or drilling.

The transplanting of paddy is considered to be superior to broadcasting as it gives increased yield of 30 to 40 per cent (Lord, 1935) in Sri Lanka, 20 per cent higher yield in Egypt (Gad El Hak, 1963) and saves seeds (Paul, 1945).

In India, the increase in yield has been recorded to be between 15 to 30 per cent (Ramiah, 1954). A study conducted on the different methods of growing paddy has indicated that the highest grain yield is obtained by transplaning method followed by dapog and broadcasting in that order. Further, it has been considered to be the best method from the point of view of weed control (Gill and Singh, 1977).

Experiments in Phillippines prove that the growth of the transplanted paddy is more uniform and faster. It has also been reported that direct seeding requires much higher standard of management. Transplanting is advisable as a protection against pests, to off-set the effect of low seed viability, poor water supply and control, and to facilitate weed control (Anonymous, 1967).

In Egypt, the main reasons of adopting the transplanting are economy of seeds, opportunity for rotational cropping by allowing more time for the previous crop, economy in employing water during early season and control of weeds.

Transplanting, therefore, induces higher yield, gives more regular stand, facilitates weeding, reduces the amount of water application, shortens the duration of the crop and saves seeds.

3. The Problem

The agronomic advantages to be derived from transplanting are well established at least in Asian conditions so that the mechanisation of this operation needs close attention. It enables the cultivator to prepare the land thoroughly. The puddling operation done prior to transplanting, buries the weeds thereby adding more humus and fertility to the soil which otherwise would compete with paddy plants for nutrients. On being placed soft puddled soil, the paddy seedlings are able to put forth fresh roots in all directions. The root system thus developed enables the seedlings to utilise food materials form materials from the area all around, and plant population becomes more certain. The young crop often subjected to pest and disease attack, can be easily and effectively controlled in a nursery bed whereas the control measures for young plants of broadcasted crop would be more difficult and expensive.

However, the hand transplanting of paddy is a very tiresome and labour consuming activity needing as high as 300 to 350 man-hours per hectare. The human stress and drugery involved in it, is very high. It is done under adverse conditions and in bending posture. Many efforts have been made in different countries to develop mechanical aids and machines to give relief and increase the capacity of farm workers and to maintain the timelines of operation. Though the results found during the experiments have been encouraging, no successful mechanical transplanter has been commercially viable in any country except in Japan and Korea.

In Japan, more than 10 types of transplanters appeared in the market during the year 1969-70 and many of these machines proved to have potential market (Hoshino, 1969). The number of rice transplanter was more than 4 lakhs in 1973 and an increase of more than one lakh a year was expected after that year (Hoshino, 1975).

In India, the work on the design and development of paddy transplanters is very limited. None of the transplanters either locally developed or imported from abroad, found favour with the farmers mainly due to high labour requirement and high operating cost.

Therefore, in the early eighties research was undertaken at Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, West Bengal to develop a manually operated paddy transplanter and optimise seedling mat parameters for mechanical transplanting. The manually operated paddy transplanter with modified finger set using mat seedlings was found to be more economical as compared to the conventional hand transplanting method. The labour requirement, starting from seedling raising to transplanting was found to be 125 man-hrs per hectare. The machine had a breakeven of one hectare. This machine could not be manufactured and popularised due to lack of industrial extension programme in farm implements and machinery discipline.

During 1994, a local manufacturig concern M/s. Kalinga Engineer Ltd, Bhubaneswar came forward for manufacturing of farm implements and machines. The first prototype of the paddy transplanting machine fabricated by the concern has been tested in CRRI, Cuttack and OUAT, Bhubaneswar. The performance of this machine has been found to be highly satisfactory.

It is hoped that this machine will revolutionise the paddy/rice cultivation programme of Orissa and other paddy growing states of the country. Considering the market potential of this machine, it is expected to generate a turnover of Rs. 25 crores for SSI units of the state.

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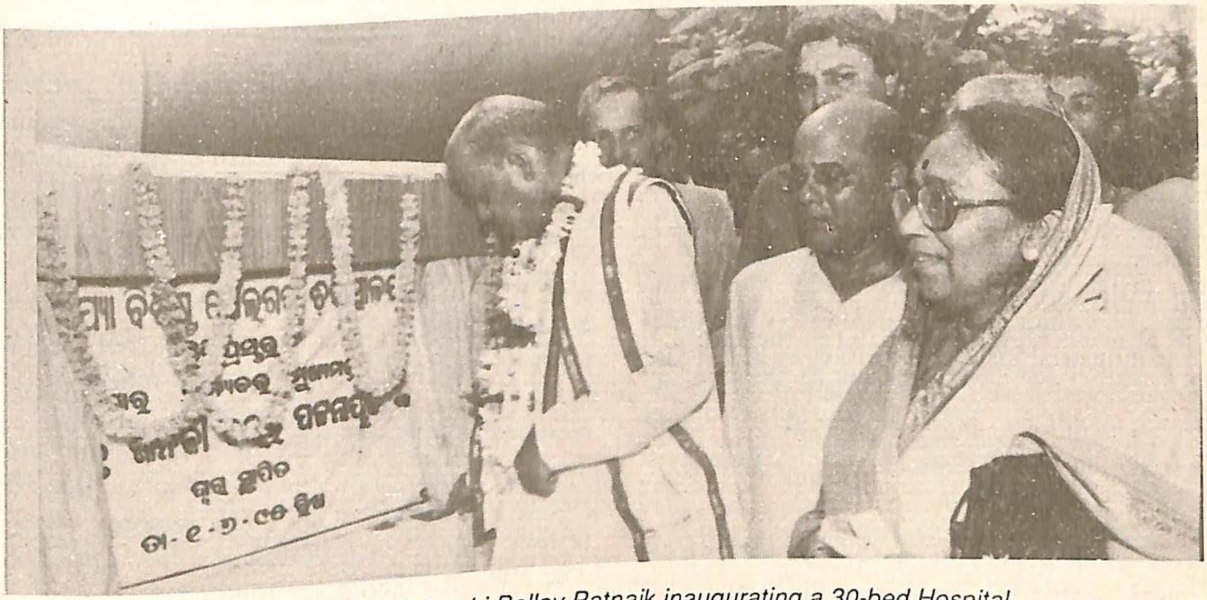

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik inaugurating a 30-bed Hospital at Bolgarh on 1-7-1995

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik speaking at the 71st Executive Committee Meeting of Orissa Krushak Samaj being held in the State Co-operative Bank Conference Hall on 7-7-1995

MARRIAGE CUSTOM AMONG ORAONS

Mary G. Bage

Arba-Jhorabahal situated on the bank of river Brahmani, consists of 10 hamlets. Even though closer to the still town and urbanization it lives in its own isolation maintaining its individualism.

Persuing agricultural activities as their way of living, they confine themselves to prestime methods of cultivation with its tribal grandeur. The younger generaion are different from their parents in the sense that they have opted for activities other than agriculture and have accepted works at industrial installation either at Lathikata or Rourkela and have gradually picked up an air of sophistication and identification with white-collar class. Nontheless, socially speaking, their life is purely oranian.

Oraons grow families and have faith in marriage as a social institution. For them monogamy is the most popular mode of matrimony. Under certain social circumstanc one may be allowed to have more than one wife but bi-gamy is not accepted as a common rule. Polyandry is prohibited. The circle of marriage is endogamous; any deviation provokes ex-communication. The love for lineage or the clan system discourages them marriage within the 1st circle of blood relation even they do not consider it sanguine to marry within the fold of village. Child marriage is anachronistic to their social structure. The tradition of marriage by service is gradually becoming 'obsolete'. This is a practice where perspective groom earns acceptance through his service to the family of his perspective bride for some time. They do not consider widow re-marriage as obnoxious. In such cases the widow has to marry her husband's younger brother as a first preference (Junior Levirate) as the customs prevalent in some of the folks of Punjab. Otherwise she is free to marry some other acceptable person. Divorce as a practice has been granted on various grounds such as fugitiveness, laziness, adultry, barrenness, impotence, lunancy. Where the bride is found guilty, the divorce is followed by return of the bride price by the parents of the bride as a token of recognition of divorce.

Oraons are mostly patriarchal and patrilocal. The laws of inheritance follows the patrilineal nature of society. On the death of the family head the property is inherited by his surviving sons as per the tribal law. The eldest son is entitled for a small plot in addition to his usual share also, the sons of the first wife get larger share. The ex-communicated children are debarred from any property share. A widow can not inherit but can have the privilege of getting a reasonable sustenance either until her re-marriage or natural death. The patrilineal sense of protection is so strong that brothers share the marriage expenses of their sisters in case of the death of their father. The laws of inheritance establish that the Oraon family is essentially nuclear.

The regional council or Parha Panchayat is the highest political organization of the Oraons which supervise the Parhas (territorial units) constituted of smaller number of villages varying in number from five to thirty. "Each Parha defends its agricultural land, village sites, forest tracts, grazing lands, water supply, fishing pools, etc. One of the villages in a Parha is called the raja village, another the dewan (prime minister) village, third, the panrey (clerk) village, fourth, the kotwar (orderly) village, and the remaining villages are the praja (subject) villages. The head man or Mahato of the raja village acts as the chairman."[1]

A chain of customs make the Oraons marriage system very colourful one. The search for bride commences from the day following Vado–Ekadasi. Messengers called "Agua" convey messages to boy's house about the girl and her family. If the information evokes curiosity, the members of the boy's family with one or two (Kutum) kinsmen respond by visiting the girl's family. Such guests are received in a soulful tribal ceremony equivalent to the "Padarghya" system. As a token of honour, the feet of the guests are kept in a water vessel for washing. The washed water is not drained down but is considered as sacred as is sprinkled on the roof top of the girl's house. Rice beer (country liquor) is offered as a mark of honour and friendship. Guests normally spend one night in the company of the family members of the girl's parents. An equally small group of members from girl's family also exchange the visit, with the only exception that guests from girl's family normally do not spend the night at the boy's family residence but return before dusk. (After these preliminaries are over, the boy's parents and the 'Agua' visit the girl's house to fix up the date for 'Lota pani' ceremony, which is normally determined according to social and financial convenience of girl's parents. The *lota pani* ceremony is like a bride–groom parties pilgrimage. Such a party is composed of boy's family members, relatives and neighbours numbering fifty to sixty who proceed in pomp and splendour with blowing of musical instruments. This colourful procession halts at a little distance from the girl's house and are accommodated into a rest place where they are received with food and drinks. The whole of the night, the arriving party and some enthusiasts of the girl's family side spend in merrymaking full of dancing and singing interspersed by drinking of rice beer (country liquor).

Next morning following the breakfast the *lota pani* ceremony is executed for registering the finalization of the proposal. The ritual involved in it is very simple, solemn and sacred in spirit.

A brass bowl full of water with mango leafs couched on cow dung is handed over to Dewan who perfrom the ceremony as per the customs. He sprinkles water over himself and the place for the purpose of purification and makes diagram with rice powder and keeps the brass bowl with sacred water. Then both the parties sit down in facing each other, exchange the bowl as a mark of final agreement and thereafter bride price is determined in the presence of the Dewan who considers it necessary to confirm the willingness of the bride and the groom by making personal enquiries separately. The ceremony ends with a markful tune of *"Hulhuli"* made by the lady members present and follow up dance and dinner.

Then comes 'Badka Gutiya' a primitive ritual which represents a test of the physical valour of craftsmanship of the groom's party. A choosen pig for the game is let loose in the presence of the party and a set of weapons are handed over with a challenge to play the game successfully by hunting the animal. The prospective groom's party host a dinner which necessarily includes the pork of game pig.

The worship of their ancestors takes place on a suitable day on return from badka gutiya mission. They move in the south direction from the boy's house to an outside place with water, sal leaf (shorea-robusta) and jack fruit leafs (Atrocarpus heterophyllus (syn. Artocarpus integrifolia) working as basic ingredients of worship. Seven members sit in a line chanting their hymns. With the help of sal leaf (shorea robuta) they pour water on the jack fruit leafs (Atrocarpus heterophyllus) syn. (Artrocarpus integrifolia) in the name of their ancestors and in the name of their village. They make 'namaskar' three times and return to the boy's house, following which the bride price is given.

The observation of 'Kandsa' at both the houses of the bride and the bride-groom is an important prelude to marriage ceremony. A small basket is decorated with the help of the rice (collected by bachelor boys), by the crafty kandsman with as mush devotion as in the case of making of 'Purna Kumbha' in Hindu rites. After the completion of making Kandsa bachelor boys and the crafty kandsman break their fast by eating 'ladus' and sweets and the kandsa is carried by the sister-in-laws to "Mandwa" (in Sanskrit Mandapa) marriage pendal where vermilion is given to Kandsa and a chick is sacrificed as a ritual of worship and make *'Pradakhyana'* of Kandsa three times. Thereafter the Kandsa is carried over head followed by three *Pradakhyana* of 'Mandwa' and proceed back to house.

The bride-groom party proceed in a procession headed by a torch bearer, who carries a plate and a sickle, and oil cloth bandaged sickle in flame. On arrival at the girl's residence the party is given accommodation a resting place and from there the groom is carried by girl's brother or one of the male member inside the house. At the entrance point the girl's friends on demand usually receive an entrance fee.

The real ritual begins when the groom is made to stand, his toes touching the heel of the bride on a curry stone. Members of the innerparters put vermilion in the middle finger of the boy's left hand as the mark of solemnization of the marriage after which the groom returns to his camp.

At night once again the groom is carried inside the house along with the party for the completion of the ritual. Some money is offered to the groom whereupon he sits on a mat, the bride is also brought cermoniously to be beside the groom. Bride's brother or any male member stands behind putting an umbrella over their head. Bride's elder sister or any female elder member comes in with oil, vermilion and a comb, massage oil on to their heads and comb them thereby giving them the status of husband and wife from there onwards. The couple eat together in the presence of all and thereafter serve food to the assembled guests and relatives and the rest of the night is enjoyed in dancing and drinking. At day-break the elderly women invite the bride groom to sit in their laps in turn when oil is massaged on his head as a token of both acceptance and blessing. The bridal party presents the groom an arrow tip for his use during the hunting spree, during the coming Holy The groom's party return with the bride and the groom and arrange a cermonial feast which is no less than a community dinner.

The marriage is social phenomenon for the Oraons with the distinct charm of tribal rituals and customs. It looks very much natural even though some of the rituals are shrouded with simple form of superstitions and mythical beliefs. But at no place the matter of the fact earthly touched is not wanting. It is colourful because there is mirth of soul in all the activities beginningfrom exchange of informaion, agreement, reception to solemnization of the marriage.

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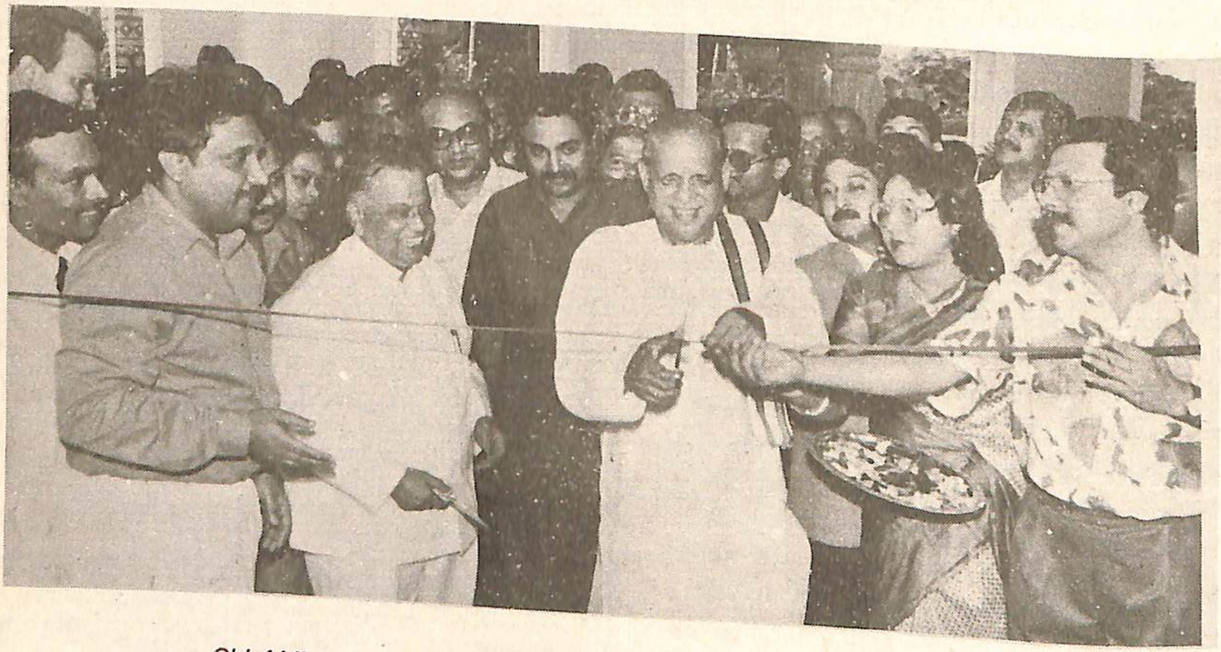

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik inaugurating Hotel Garden Inn at Unit-III, Kharavela Nagar, Bhubaneswar on 4-7-1995. Deputy Chief Minister Shri Basanta Kumar Biswal is present

SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES IN ORISSA : A STUDY

Dr. S. N. Tripathy
&
P. K. Pattanayak

The Small Scale Industry occupies a central place in the Indian economy. The Small Scale Industrial sector has emerged as a dynamic and vibrant sector of the economy during the nineties. At the end of the eighth plan period it accounted for nearly 35 per cent of the gross value of output in the manufacturing sector and over 42 per cent of the total export from the country. It also provides employment opportunities to about 1.3 crore people in the year 1992—93. One of the vital objectives of the Small Scale Industrial policy during the nineties would be to import more vitality and growth impetus to the sector to enable it to contribute its might fully to the economy. Particularly, in terms of growth of output, employment and exports, the Sector has been substantially delicenced.

WHAT IS SSI :

With regard to our acceptable definition of SSI a lot of controversy exists.

(i) A Small Scale Industry (SSI) has been defined as a unit engaged in the processing, preserving, manufacturing or servicing activities with an investment in plan and machinery of not exceeding Rs. 35 lakhs.

(ii) Such small scale units which are supplying at least 50 per cent their production to some of large scale units are termed as anciallary units and for them investment in plan and machinery may not be exceeding Rs. 45 lakhs.

(iii) Besides units which are situated in an area with a population not exceeding 50,000 investing not more than Rs. 2 lakhs and which are locally available goods as raw–materials are termed as tiny units.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCENARIO OF ORISSA :

The Government of Orissa has directed all its efforts towards creating congenial climate for accelerated industrial growth through investiable capital and diffusion of technical skills under various liberalised and growth-oriented industrial programmes. But ironically, the industrial production in the state has undergone a phase of stagnation and recession because of inadequate infrastructural, recurrent deficiencies in industrial investment, lack of entrepreneurial ability, shortage of power and un-exploited local human and natural resources. The last Industrial policy, 1992 declared by the Orissa Government aims at acceleration in the Industrial growth of the state.

The Industrial policy of Orissa, 1992 has been formulated keeping in view, exhaustive utilisation of state's vast natural resources while financial assistance to the potential entrepreneurs in the form of subsidies and post production benefits is envisaged. The following table presents the data relating to progress of Small Scale Industries units in Orissa.

TABLE–I

Position of Small Scale Industries (SSI) in the State of Orissa

Period	Established	SSI units Investment (Rs. increased)	Employment
	(1)	(2)	(3)
By the end of 7th Plan	35867	437.20	2.65.332
1990-91	2249	61.00	15,657
1991-92	2233	52.00	15,545
1992-93	2117	55.00	13,344

Source–Economic Survey (1993-94), Govt. of Orissa).

The above table reveals that by the end of 7th plan 35867 number of small scale industrial units were set up with cumulative investment of Rs. 437.26 crore and generating employment for 2,65,332 persons. During the period 1990—91 to 1992—93, 6599 number of SSI units have been installed with an investment of Rs.168.03 crore providing employment to 44,546 persons.

In order to create an environment for rapid industrialisation an integrated approach was adopted during the Eighth plan period.

The plan envisages the strategy to achieve the objective of development of ancillary and sophisticated units including electronics and new Industries like ceramics, plastics, photoparts and components etc.

The Eighth plan priority was also attached to rehabilitate the sick units with emphasis on female employment.

PROBLEM OF FINANCE :

In the context of Orissan economy, Small Scale Industry plays a dominant role, paradoxically, only 15 per cent of the Industrial capital is invested in Small Scale Industries, whereas 85 per cent goes to Large Scale Industries. The major financial Institutions providing fund for Small Scale Industries are District Industries Centre (DIC), Orissa Small Industries Corporation (OSIC), Commercial Banks and Orissa State Financial Corporation. (OSFC).

DISTRICT INDUSTRIES CENTRE (DIC) :

The DIC is the apex body located in every district has a wide range of functions to play for the development of S.S.I. It surveys the Industrial potentialities and availability of resources within the district. It not only provides machinery and other equipment for installation of units but facilitates the marketing of goods. The vital component of D.I.C. is to provide entrepreneurial training and finance for the viability of SSI in collaboration with OSFC and Commercial Banks.

ORISSA SMALL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION (OSIC) :

The Orissa Small Industries Corporation, since its inception in 1972 has successfully discharged its duties in supplying raw materials and finance The Corporation has effectively supplied scare and controlled raw materials to S.S.I. unit through the depots located at different parts of the state. The Table No.2 presents the detailed account of quantity of raw materials,its value and finance etc.

TABLE–II

Achievement & Assistance of Finance of OSIC during 1991-92 to 1993-94, (up to July, 1993)

	Raw materials supplied		Value of production Amount	
Year	Quantity (in M.T.)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)	Marketing (Rs. in lakhs)	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1991-92	34547.00	5728.51	526.00	730.06
1992-93	33524.00	3222.53	1205.00	684.51
1993-94	6160.00	1281.43	120.15	581.99

Source–Economic Survey (1993-94) Govt. of Orissa, Planning & Co-ordination Department.

COMMERCIAL BANK :

The State Bank of India conducted its first Entrepreneurial Development Programme (EDP) in 1978 mainly in backward districts with the basic objective of creating awareness of self-employment through setting up of small scale industries by providing training to prospective entreprenuers. As per the Banks modes the EDP conducts one month intensive training in behavioural science, management aspects etc.

POLICY THRUST :

Needless to mention that the progress of SSI in Orissa is far from satisfactory. In view of this the following suggestions have been forwarded.

(i) It is essential to develop an overall approach to remove these disabilities so as to strengthen their competitive position.

(ii) Steps should be taken to ensure regular supply of raw materials, imported components and equipment to the SSI units.

(iii) Supply of credit and finance to the units such as long term loan, capital and short term credit at reasonable rates.

(iv) Provision of technical assistance to small-scale industries, should also be made.

(v) Entrepreneurial Development Training (EDT) should be imparted to the unemployed candidates in every block to active, dynamic energetic persons. Mobile training units should be operated in every town of insdustrial backwardness.

(vi) High priority should be given to export oriented industries.

(vii) Conduct training, workshop, seminar based on SSI units. Preference will be given to the reputed voluntary organisations on special ground.

(viii) All statutes, regulations and procedures should be reviewed and modified wherever necessary to ensure that their operation does not interfere with the interests of the small enterprises.

(ix) For removal of backwardness and regional imbalances, incentives for setting up of small scale industries should be given in backward regions.

(x) The small scale industries and ancillary units providing the parts and equipment needed for large scale industries should be treated as complementary to large scale industries for promotion of Industries and removal of poverty in a resource plenty labour surplus Orissa. Small Scale Industries provide the only answer.

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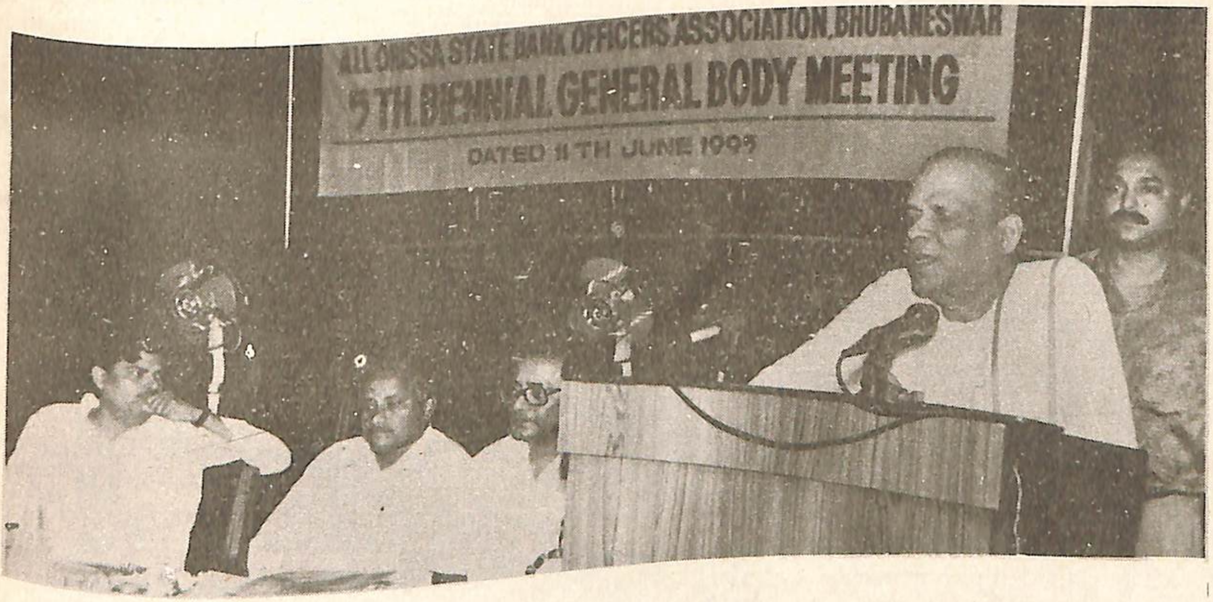

ALL ORISSA STATE BANK OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, BHUBANESWAR
5TH. BIENNIAL GENERAL BODY MEETING
DATED 11TH JUNE 1995

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik delivering his speech in connection with 5th Biennial General Body Meeting of All Orissa State Bank Officers' Association, Bhubaneswar at Soochana Bhawan on 11-6-1995

A NOTE ON THE ACTION PLAN OF HANDICRAFTS & COTTAGE INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

Employment Opportunities :

Handicrafts and Cottage Industries Department has programmed to create facilities for additional self–employment for 17,000 persons (Khadi–12,000+ Handicraft & Coir 5,000) through Handicrafts, Coir, Salt and Khadi and Village Industries Schemes during 1995–96.

New strategy for massive expansion of Handicrafts :

(i) Introduction of "Craft Village Scheme"

It has been programmed to create 3 craft villages each with 50 handicrafts artisans. The Scheme envisages training-*cum*-production so as to generate sustained employment opportunities.

(ii) Exhibition Outside the State :

Handicrafts Cooperative Societies are being encouraged to organise/participate in exhibitions outside the State to boost up marketing of handicrafts with financial assistance to Government in H. & C.I. Department.

Orissa State Cooperative Handicrafts Corporation has successfully organised an exhibition at Delhi in April 1995 wherein 33 primary Handicrafts Cooperative Societies participated and marketed their products.

During 1995–96, 25 Nos. of Cooperative Societies will be provided opportunities to market their product outside the State.

(iii) Export Award :

In order to encourage exporters in handicrafts export, awards will be provided to the three best exporters based in the State whose export exceeds Rs. 3 lakhs in qualifying year.

1st Award : Rs. 50,000
2nd Award : Rs. 25,000
3rd Award : Rs. 15,000

(iv) State Award :

State Awards will be provided to 8 highly skilled craftsmen of the State to encourage production of quality Handicrafts.

(v) Design Development :

5 artisans will be provided awards for best design on Handicrafts. The scheme will bring innovation over traditionality. Design workshop will be organised in various crafts with experts from N.I.D., INTACH etc.

(vi) Modernisation of Equipment :

Handicrafts artisans of the State usually operate with the small tools. Use of modern equipment will help the artisans to save labour and to increase productivity. This scheme will extend benefit to 20 Handicrafts Cooperative Societies during the year 1995–96.

(vii) Rehabilitation of Handicrafts Artisans :

This Scheme provides margin money assistance to Handicrafts artisans against Bank loan. 100 artisans will be benefited under the scheme during 1995–96.

(viii) Opening of Marketing Out–lay by OSCHC Ltd.:

The O.S.C.H.C. progressively tries to open new marketing outlets in all the important cities of the country for increasing turnover in Handicrafts. During 1995–96 it is proposed to open one emporium at Baroda with an investment of nearly Rs. 40.00 lakhs.

(ix) A Craft Museum will be built up for projecting and popularising Orissan Crafts amongst tourists from various places.

(x) Iodisation of Salt Plant :

Use of Non–iodised Salt causes goitre disease for which Salt Department of Government of India has banned use of Non-Iodised Salt. 2 Nos. of Iodised Salt Plant have already been installed with the financial assistance from UNICEF.

(xi) With State Government and N.C.D.C. assistance more and more defibring units will be set up to utilise coconut potential and generate employment.

◆

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik inaugurating Workers Convention at Rajiv Gandhi N.T.P.C., Kaniha on 31-5-1995 by lighting a lamp

ROTARY CLUB OF BHUBANESWAR
INSTALLATION CEREMONY
ACT WITH INTEGRITY · SERVE WITH LOVE

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik addressing at the Installation Ceremony of Rotary Club of Bhubaneswar at Hotel Swosti on 3-7-1995

A TALE OF SUCCESS IN 100 DAYS

(Investment of Rupees 40,000 Cr.)

1. Freedom From Hunger

(i) Rice supplied at Rupees 2 a Kilo to 23 lakh families in 143 ITDA/DPAP Blocks.

(ii) Free food supplied to the old, the disabled and the destitute in 10 blocks of Koraput, Malkangiri, Rayagada, Kalahandi and Nawapara districts.

(iii) Mid-day meals arranged for pupils in Primary Schools from July 1,1995.

2. Social Justice

(i) 27% reservation policy implemented for the welfare of other backward class people.

(ii) All arrangements made for augmenting stipends to 10,000 O. B. C. students studying in IX and X Classes.

(iii) One-third ($33\frac{1}{3}$%) posts reserved for Women in Government and semi-Government offices.

(iv) Financial assistance provided to distressed women for self-employment.

(v) Old Age Pension at the rate of Rs. 150/- per month provided to the landless peasants.

(vi) Educational qualification relaxed for appointment to the posts of Police Constables in favour of Adivasi Youths.

(vii) Decision finalised to fill up vacancies to the posts of Class-III & IV at the district level.

(viii) Homestead land for the homeless.

(ix) Indira Awas increased five times for the benefit of SC/ST people.

(x) Decision taken to implement the Kutira Jyoti Scheme on a wider scale.

(xi) For immediate justice, Revenue Camp Courts at the block level are being set up.

3. Agricultural Development for the Welfare of Farmers

(i) Interest to the tune of Rs. 9 Cr. waived and principal amount of Rs. 27·61 Cr. collected benefitting more than one lakh farmers.

(ii) Interest free short-term loan upto Rs. 2,000/- provided.

(iii) Improved agricultural implements of rupees 40 lakhs provided at 50% subsidized rate.

(iv) Seeds at subsidized rate to be provided during the current kharif season.

(v) Provision of Irrigation facilities to cover 6 lakh hectares of cultivable land at the cost of Rs. 1300 Cr.

(vi) Agro-Industries and Agricultural Development Programme taken up.

(vii) More emphasis on the cultivation of Sugarcane, groundnut-oilseeds, cotton and silk.

4. Massive Industrialization Programme and Self-Employment Scheme for the Unemployed Youth.

(i) Decision taken to fill up 35,000 vacancies in Government offices.

(ii) Self-employment provision under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana and Nehru Rozgar Yojana.

(iii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana doubled.

5. (a) Steel Plants

(i) Bhusan Steels & Strips

(ii) Orind Steel Ltd.

(iii) Nilachal Ispat Nigam

(iv) Ganapati Export Ltd.

(v) Asian Alloys Ltd.

(vi) Brahmani Iron & Steel Co.

(vii) L & T Ltd.

(b) Aluminium Plants

(i) In collaboration with Hydo (Sweden), Indal & Tata.

(ii) In collaboration with L & T and ALCOA.

(c) Cement Plants

A Joint collaboration of IDC & DLF.

(d) Sugar Factories

New Sugar Factories each at a cost of Rs. 60 Cr. to be set up in Koraput, Boud, Ganjam, Puri and Bhadrak districts.

Approval of Government of India awaited for setting up of 8 more Sugar factories in diferent districts.

6. Generation of Power

(i) New strategies adopted with the formation of the Grid Power Corporation of Orissa to generate more power and expedite effective customers service. First Units of both Talcher Super Thermal and Ib Thermal Project commissioned generating 710 MW electricity.

(ii) MOU signed with the renowned SEPA Co. of Hong Kong to set up a 3300 MW power generation plant in Jharsuguda district at a cost of Rs. 15000 Cr.

(iii) Decision taken to abolish load shedding in the State.

7. Oil Refinery

Provision to set up Oil Refinery at Paradip at a cost of Rs. 3000 Cr. by IOC.

8. Rapid Development of Gopalpur Port

Integrated development of Gopalpur Port at a cost of Rs. 1000 Cr.

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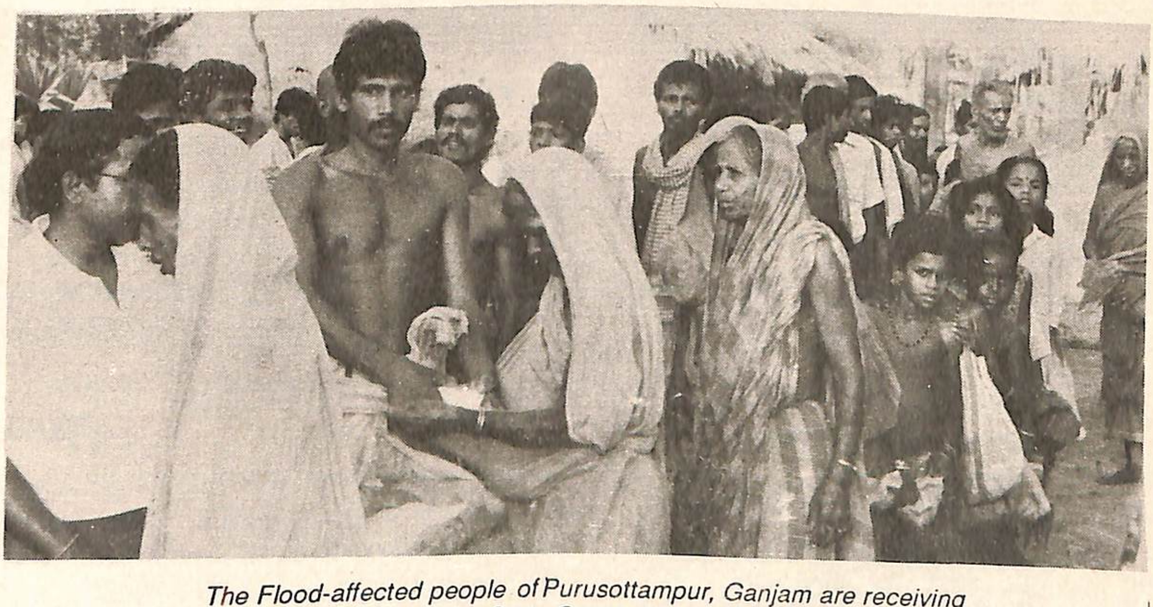


The Flood-affected people of Purusottampur, Ganjam are receiving relief from the State Government on 19-5-1995

ORISSA BUDGET (1995-96)

At a glance

(in crore)

	Income	Out-go
I. CONSOLIDATED FUND		
(a) Revenu Account		
(i) Non-Plan	3323.60	3675.83
(ii) State Plan	273.15	948.77
(iii) Central Plan	312.25	291.63
(iv) Centrally Sponsored plan	218.66	199.03
Total (a)	4127.66	5115.26
(b) Capital Account		
(i) Non-Plan	1067.39	1054.36
(ii) State Plan	1025.58	586.98
(iii) Central Plan	0.71	21.33
(iv) Centrally Sponsored plan	5.13	24.76
Total (b)	2098.81	1687.43
Total Consolidated Fund	6226.47	6802.69
II. CONTINGENCY FUND	60.00	60.00
III. PUBLIC ACCOUNT		
(a) Provident Funds	709.50	413.50
(b) Other Funds and Deposits	2625.86	2390.79
Total Public Account	3335.36	2804.29
Total State Budget	9621.83	9666.98
YEAR'S TRANSACTION		
Opening Balance	(+) 20.74	
Closing Balance	(–) 24.41	

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF

PLAN TO BOOST FARMING :

"The State Government have chalked out a massive programme to expedite agricultural development" said Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik, while addressing the 71st Working Committee meeting of the Orissa Krushak Samaj held in the State Cooperative Bank Conference Chamber on July,7 last.

Shri Patnaik said, norms would be fixed soon to boost farming, and farmers would be provided with attractive incentives. "Measures would be taken up to dovetail production of the traditional crops with profit–yielding", he stressed.

OUAT Vice–Chancellor, Dr. Khageswar Pradhan and Member, Orissa Krushak Samaj Working Committee, Shri Madhab Routray, among others, addressed the meeting.

MALLICK FOR "MAHABHARAT" ON TV :

Minister of State, Information and Public Relations Shri Netrananda Mallick in a letter to Shri Kamakshya Prasad Singh Deo, Minister of State, Information & Broadcasting urged to resume the Mahabharat TV serial for the benefit of the rural masses.

C.M. OPENS A 30–BED HOSPITAL AT BOLGARH :

Chief Minister, Shri J.B. Patnaik inaugurated a 30–bed Hospital at Bolgarh in Khurda district on July,3 last. Addressing a public meeting organised on the occasion he said developmental programme to help the poor during the last hundred days of his Government caught the imagination of the masses. "Supply of rice at Rs.2 per Kilo in 143 Adivasi blocks, opening of free feeding centres for 2 lakh hunger afflicted people in 10 identified blocks and introduction of free feeding for Primary School Children in several areas were measures for safeguarding the poorer section of the society", he said. Orissa would turn a corner with 40,000 Cr. provided aid for industrial growth, he hoped and said steel and power production was poised for a breakthrough in near future.

Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Jagannath Rout said an estimated amount of Rs.55 lakh would be required to complete the 30–bed Hospital in all respects.

ASSISTANCE TO HELPLESS WOMEN

Inaugurating the National·Gramashree Mela organised on the occasion of the Car Festival at Puri, Deputy Chief Minister Shri Hemananda Biswal said, Rs.1,000 financial assistance would be given to each helpless woman for encouraging competitive spirit in rural areas. He said 2 lakh helpless women would get benefit from the scheme. Besides 'one lakh houses would be provided to the poor families under the JRY Scheme during the current financial year', the Deputy Chief Minister assured.

GOVT.'S COMMITMENT TO BOOST STATE'S CULTURAL PROFILE :

'Orissa will bring about revolutionary changes in the field of culture,' said Tourism and Culture Minister, Shri Bhupinder Singh, while addressing the departmental officials including officials of the State Museum, State Archives and Secretaries of State Akademis on June 26 last at State Secretariat. Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary, Shri Rajendra Kishore Panda called for streamlining the activities of Zilla Sanskruti Parisadas to usher in effective changes in boosting the cultural profile of the state. Special Secretary, Kumkum Mohanty also spoke in the meeting.

BHANJA'S CREATION—A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION :

Hon'ble Governor of Orissa, Shri Gopal Ramanujam has called upon the people of Orissa to pledge their faith in the values of social justice, equality, tolerance, non–violence and universal brotherhood.

Addressing the Bhanja Jayanti celebration function organised by the Kalinga Sanskrutika Anusthan at Soochana Bhavan, Bhubaneswar on June 26, the Governor said, those values were cherished and celebrated by the great poet "Kavi Samrat Upendra Bhanja" who continued to inspire us for ever.

Expressing the views that "a poet is truly great when he expresses enduring human truths, gleaned by experience and foresight" Shri Ramanujam said that there was no doubt that Upendra Bhanja stood the test of immortality.

Lauding Orissa's artistic tradition in literature, painting, dance, architecture and music Shri Ramanujam said that Upendra Bhanja wrote in a language understood by the common man and at the same time expressed the hopes and aspirations of the common people. Free from any sectarian or regional sentiments, the Governor said, Upendra Bhanja advocated proficiency in other languages for the literary men of Orissa and believed that different sections, cultures and creeds should not divide essential humanism underlying Indian culture which was symbolised by Lord Jagannath.

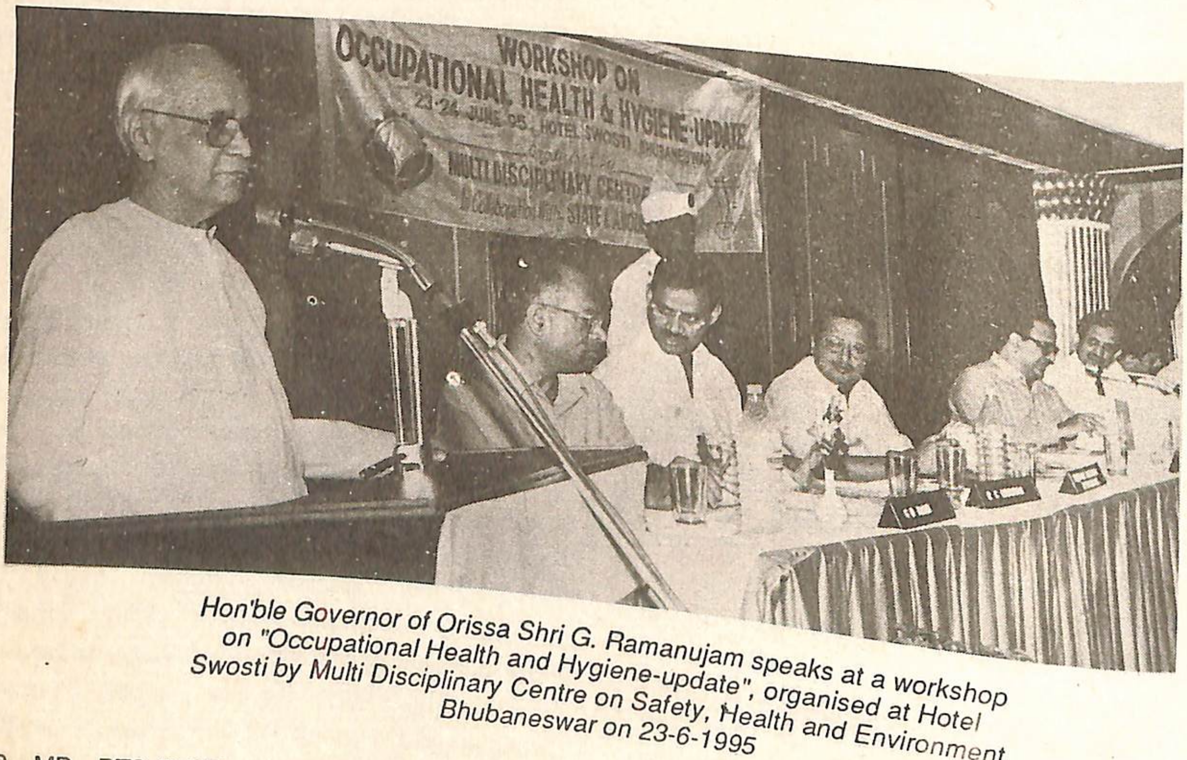
QUALITATIVE EDUCATION STRESSED :

Shri Hemananda Biswal, Deputy Chief Minister, while addressing the valedictory function of the Golden Jubilee of Gangadhar Meher College, Sambalpur on July 6, Shri Biswal stressed on good morale and integrity of character and a sense of sacrifice of both teachers and students so as to leave an endurable imprint on the society. There is certainly a need to reorient all our tools for imparting effective, qualitative and need-based education. Shri Biswal hoped that Gangadhar Meher College as the second Premier College in the State should become a centre of excellence.

NEW VICE-CHANCELLORS FOR SAMBALPUR UNIVERSITY & UTKAL UNIVERSITY :

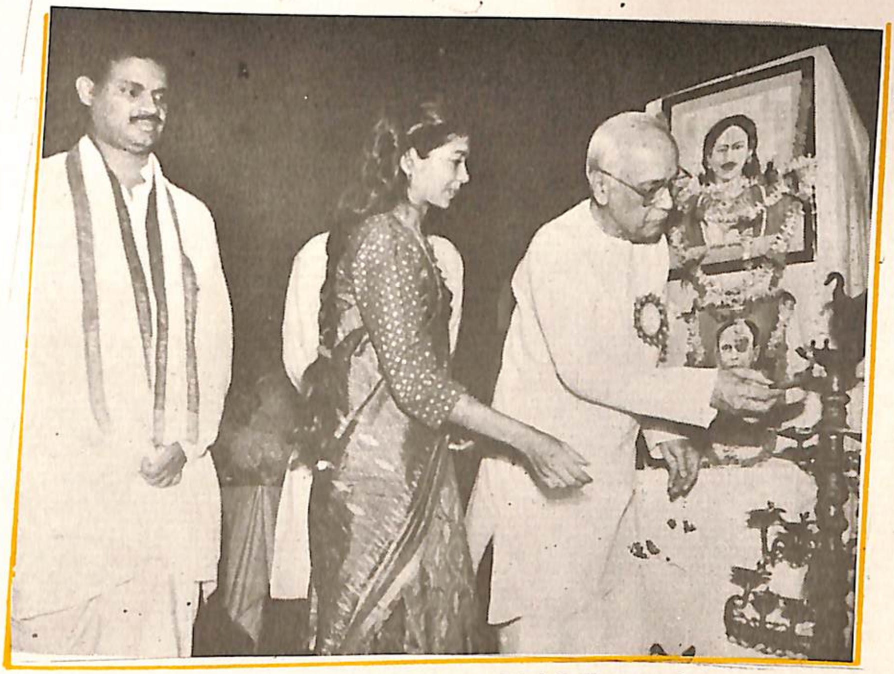
The Governor-Chancellor Shri Gopal Ramanujam has appointed Dr. (Mrs.) Priyambada Mohanty Hejmadi as the Vice-Chancellor of Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar. Professor of Zoology, Dr. Mohanty eventually became the first lady Vice-Chancellor in the State.

Dr. G. K. Das has been appointed as Vice-Chancellor of Utkal University.


WORKSHOP ON
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & HYGIENE-UPDATE
23-24 JUNE 95, HOTEL SWOSTI, BHUBANESWAR
MULTI DISCIPLINARY CENTRE

Hon'ble Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam speaks at a workshop on "Occupational Health and Hygiene-update", organised at Hotel Swosti by Multi Disciplinary Centre on Safety, Health and Environment, Bhubaneswar on 23-6-1995

OGP—MP—PTS (I&PR) 15—2,500—25-7-1995



His Excellency Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam inaugurates the 32nd Bhanja Jayanti, organised by Kalinga Sanskrutika Anusthan at Soochana Bhawan on 26-6-1995

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik is inaugurating a Community Lift Irrigation Project (Sakti Sugar) at Goradia in Dhenkanal District on 14-6-1995

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Sj. Gopal Ramanujam, Hon'ble Governor of Orissa is meeting the Press at Rajbhavan on 21-6-1995 soon after assumption of his office

Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik inaugurating the District Collectors' Conference in the Conference Hall of the Secretariat on 23-6-1995